WHEREAS, new educational programs require approval of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 508, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE); and

WHEREAS, an application for approval of the City Colleges of Chicago Advanced Certificate and Associate in Applied Science in CNC Engineering Technology has been received and is under review by the Joint Curriculum Development Council for submission; and

WHEREAS, the Advanced Certificate and Associate in Applied Science at Richard J. Daley College in CNC Engineering Technology will allow graduates to obtain employment and lead successful manufacturing careers in highly technical and automated industrial settings, assist manufacturing companies to implement the latest automated technology, and if desired, progress on to Bachelors programs. Manufacturing is quickly becoming more automated and requires integrated skills due to the complexity of the technologies involved in a modern manufacturing facility. Local Industry partners such as PepsiCo, South Chicago Packing, CITGO, Cornell Forge, Brad Foote Gear and the American Gear Manufacturing Association require employees with up to date training to allow them to be competitive manufacturers in the global marketplace. Many of the jobs that these skills will allow our students to qualify for are on the list of hard to fill jobs for the region and over half of the jobs posted in manufacturing go unfilled due to a lack of qualified candidates leading to a strong demand for new trained candidates in this field; and

WHEREAS, labor market data shows strong demand for CNC Engineering Technology training, with 1,733 annual openings for Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators, Programmers, and related occupations in Cook County with entry-level wages of $12.56 per hour and average wages of $20.76 per hour.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 508, County of Cook and State of Illinois hereby approves the submission of this program for permanent approval by the Illinois Community College Board and Illinois Board of Higher Education, pending completion of Proposed Academic Curriculum Changes (PACC) process per Academic Policy 9.02.