

# ILASFAA Legislative Toolkit

ILASFAA Legislative Committee



# Legislative Issues Committee

- Maureen Amos, Co- Chair
- Kim Eck, Co-Chair
- Pat Ackerman
- John Cage
- Laci Engelbrecht
- Katharine Gricevich
- Ivy Gromala
- Bambi Roy
- Andrea Velazquez Duran
- Chris Vieth
- Dustin Zimmerman





# Committee Purpose

- Review state and federal legislation of interest to the ILASFAA membership
- Assist with advocacy efforts
- Collaborate with NASFAA and MASFAA advocacy
- Provide communication and training on legislation impacting students, financial aid and higher education

# Committee Projects

- Provide legislative updates
- Develop and maintain an ILASFAA Legislative Toolkit
- Provide recommendations on advocacy efforts
- Share best practices and resources through trainings, webinars, newsletters, etc.
- Inform the ILASFAA membership about legislation that has passed which will have an impact on students, financial aid processes and programs, and other relevant higher education topics



# ILASFAA Legislative Toolkit

## Contents

- Introduction (Laci)
- Why Does It Matter to Us? (Laci)
- How a Bill Becomes a Law (Katharine/Mo)
- Legislative Issues Website (Bambie)
- How to Use the Illinois General Assembly Website ([ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov)) (Kim)
- Financial Aid 101 for Staffers (Dustin)
- Tracking & Responding to Legislation (Mo)
- Resources (All)

# Introduction & Why Does It Matter to Us?

- What is Advocacy? “The act or process of supporting a cause or proposal; the act or process of advocating something”
- Your Voice Matters! You do not need to be in Washington, D.C., or even Springfield, Illinois, to be an effective advocate for student financial aid.
- Once you have defined key issues of importance to your students and your institution, these will serve as a framework to help you consider the following questions that will drive your advocacy efforts:
  - What is the mission of your organization?
  - What is important to your state, ILASFAA, and your students?
  - What major issues are at hand in Illinois? Is there a particular topic or piece of legislation that continues to surface?
  - Is there an issue that is a common frustration to students and families?
  - Are there any issues causing undue hardship for students, or administratively burdensome for financial aid administrators?

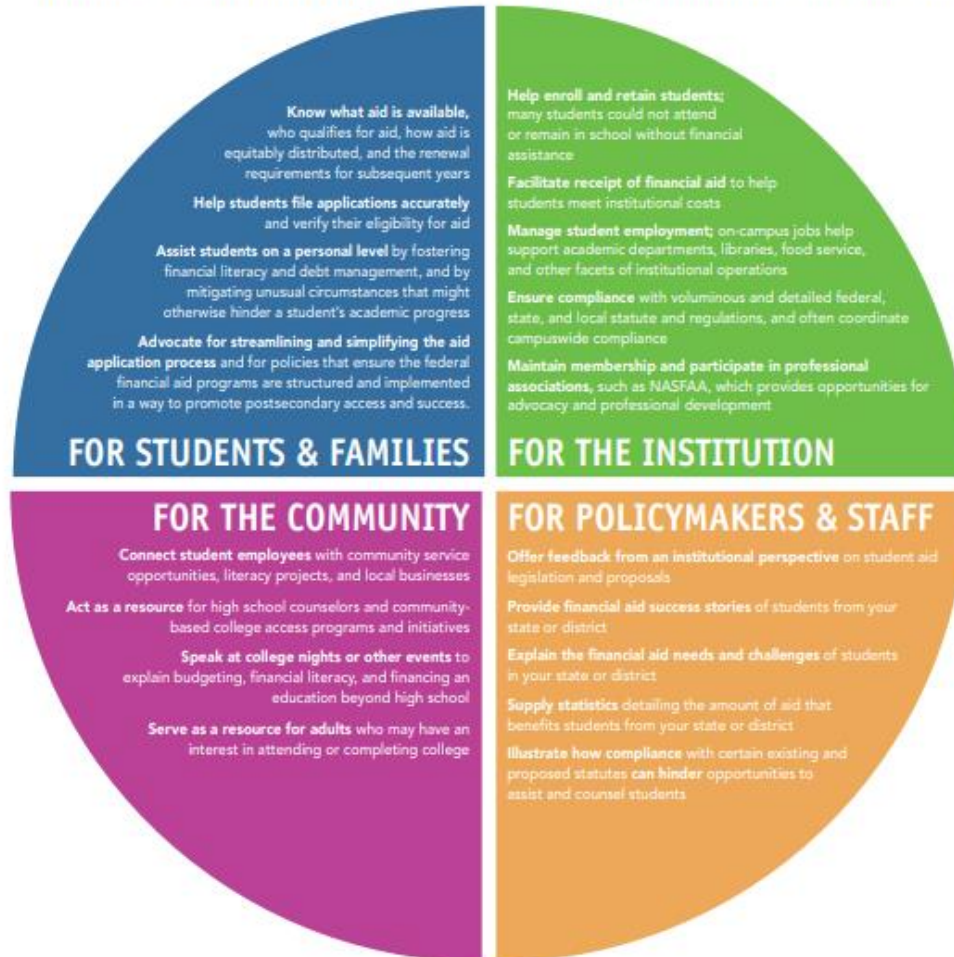


# Introduction & Why Does It Matter to Us?

- The next step is to act on behalf of the students, institution, and association.
  - Identify specific points or values that you want to communicate.
  - Focus on the most important aspects of the topic; do not include too many details.
- YOU are an advocate for students at your institution. According to the NASFAA “What Financial Aid Administrators Do” graphic, aid administrators:
  - Offer feedback from an institutional perspective on student aid legislation and proposals
  - Provide financial aid success stories of students from your state or district
  - Explain the financial aid needs and challenges of students in your state or district
  - Supply statistics detailing the amount of aid that benefits students from your state or district
  - Illustrate how compliance with certain existing and proposed statutes can hinder opportunities to assist and counsel students
- The toolkit is designed to help you be a good advocate for your students and institution.

# WHAT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS DO

Student aid provides billions of dollars nationally for students to pursue postsecondary education in the form of grants, loans, and student employment. Financial aid administrators help students achieve their educational potential by helping award and disburse monetary resources. The typical financial aid administrator wears many hats and is a rich resource for the institution. What can they do for you?



## From NASFAA

[nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/what\\_FAs\\_do\\_PDF2.pdf](https://nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/what_FAs_do_PDF2.pdf)



# How a Bill Becomes a Law

- The law of Illinois consists of several levels, including
  - Constitutional
  - Statutory
  - Regulatory
  - Case
  - Local
- The Illinois General Assembly, like the U.S. Congress, has two bodies – a bicameral legislature:
  - the Senate and
  - the House of Representatives
- A bill becomes a law when it passes both houses of the General Assembly with a majority vote in each house and is signed by the governor.
  - This process can take time with committee debates and caucuses, hearings and amendments being incorporated.

# How a Bill Becomes a Law

- A bill that is not signed by the governor within 60 days of being presented to him or her becomes law without signature.
- The governor has the power to veto a bill.
- If the governor vetoes a bill, the legislature may override the veto by a three-fifths majority vote in each house.
- Laws that have passed the legislature and been signed by the governor are called Public Acts, public laws or statutes.
- A bill may be introduced in either the House or the Senate.



# How a Bill Becomes a Law

- The Illinois Constitution contains several requirements meant to guarantee that legislators will understand the bills they are acting on before they are passed.
  - A bill must be printed and available for reading before passage
  - It must address only one subject
  - The section of the law that is being amended must be identified
  - The bill must be read on three separate days and the final vote must be recorded.
- Reading a bill does not mean that the entire bill is read.
  - Usually only the title is read, but the process of reading:
    - announces to the legislature that the bill is being considered,
    - allows legislators to debate the bill and suggest amendments, and
    - prohibits passage of a bill without at least a three-day delay.

# Legislative Issues Website

- [ilasfaa.org](http://ilasfaa.org) as an important resource
- On the radar legislation
- Updates and status of legislation
- Message board
- RSS feeds





ilasfaa.org

ILASFAA  
Illinois Association of Student  
Financial Aid Administrators  
Serving Illinois Students Since 1969

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Recent News

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Quick Links

- NASFAA News
- MASFAA News

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ip Retreat

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Search

HOME ABOUT- MEMBERSHIP- LEADERSHIP- EVENTS- RESOURCES-

Member Menu

Members - Events - Communication - Engagement - Resources - Multimedia -

Welcome to your ILASFAA Member Portal

Now is a great time to review your membership profile and make your updates. Just go to Member Information tab below and select the Change Contact/Profile Info

Communication Engagement

- Newsletter
- Committee Updates
- Multipost
- Submit New Message
- Message Boards



## Message Boards

[Main Menu](#) | [Member List](#)

Click on one of the boards below to view topics and reply.

If you would like to receive e-mail notifications when new topics or responses are posted within a board, check the 'opt-in' checkboxes next to that board.

If you would like the e-mail notifications to be limited to one email per day per board, check the 'daily digest' checkboxes next to that board.

Keyword Search

Search

Sort Options

Board Name (A-Z)

Sort

Advanced Search

General

Opt-in	Daily Digest	Board	Topics	Posts	Last Post
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Advocacy and Legislature</b> This board is used to post topics regarding advocacy initiatives and legislative issues as they affect the financial aid community	2	0	01/24/2023 - 1:43pm CST Bambie Roy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Community Colleges</b> This message board is only for posting messages to the 'Community Listserv.'			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Computer Information Systems</b> This message board is only for posting messages to the 'Computer Systems' Listserv.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Food and Drink</b> We want to see your favorite recipes for food or drink. Please share			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Graduate/Professional</b> This message board is only for posting messages to the 'Graduate/			

## Message Board Topics

[Main Menu](#) | [Board List](#) | [Member List](#)

### Advocacy and Legislature

Search Topics

Add Topic

2 topics found

Page 1 of 1

15 per page

Topic Date (New to Old)

#### State News: Governor Pritzker signed two Bills into Law in summer, which are effective January 1, 20

House Bill 4201 helps students at state universities and community colleges access benefits through "benefit navigators. The purpose...

Bambie Roy  
Posted 1/24/2023 1:43 PM

#### National News: 2023-2024 Award Year Changes to be Implemented

Link for Details: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/dear-colleague-letters/2022-11-03/fafsar-simplification-act-changes-...>





## Legislature

### Why It Matters - Why We Matter

Working in the field of Financial Aid is a great opportunity to get your voice heard - to 'advocate' for students at your institution and at the state level. Our feedback, from an institutional perspective, is very important to helping share student aid legislation and proposals. It's an opportunity to explain both financial aid needs and the challenges our students face from the state or district.

On this page, we'll provide some useful resources to help you reach your goal. If you ever have any questions or comments, or need assistance, please feel free to reach out to the (put committee name and set up email dist list)

### Advocacy and Legislative Issues Toolkit

--Coming Soon--

The information provided in this toolkit is meant to help us all better understand and become more involved in issues regarding student and financial aid advocacy and legislative issues that directly affect our students, families, staff and financial aid as a whole. ILASFEE members can download the toolkit here: (when available)

### ILASFEE Forums

Available through the member portal, the forums page is a great place to ask questions and continue conversations about legislation. Topics include both state and federal legislation including FAFSA simplification. Active members should feel free to share topics and ask/answer questions.



The screenshot shows the ISAC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for COUNSELORS, E-LIBRARY, FAA'S, GAP ACCESS, and a SEARCH box. The ISAC logo (Illinois Student Assistance Commission) is on the left. A vertical menu on the left side contains links for HOME, STUDENTS & PARENTS >, ISAC STUDENT PORTAL, RESEARCH & POLICY >, NEWSROOM (highlighted with a red box), and ABOUT ISAC >. The background features a world map. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads: Home > News Room > ISAC In The News >. The main content area is titled "ISAC in the News" and contains two news items:

- January 3, 2023 - Illinois Framework Sets the PaCE for Other States' CCR Efforts** - Illinois' Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE) Framework is one such effort that "was developed...to provide guidance...on what types of experiences and information a student should have in order to make the most informed decisions about college and career planning, beginning in 8th grade and continuing through high school."
- January 4, 2023 - ECC addresses early childhood educator shortage with new scholarship** - Elgin Community College is providing an Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship to address the shortage of qualified early childhood educators by encouraging the pursuit of credentials and advancement of already-held degrees in early childhood education to build a strong, well-prepared workforce.

On the right side, there is a sidebar titled "ISAC In The News" with a list of years from 2023 to 2019. Below this is a section for "ISAC Press Releases" with links for "Media Kit" and "Media Contact".

ILASFAA Conference 2023



[HOME](#)[STUDENTS & PARENTS >](#)[ISAC STUDENT PORTAL](#)[RESEARCH & POLICY >](#)[NEWSROOM](#)[ABOUT ISAC >](#)[Home](#) > [E-Library](#) > [Press Releases And State Legislative Update](#)

## Press Releases & State Legislative Update

Here are the latest press releases issued by ISAC and information about legislative action occurring during sessions of the Illinois General Assembly.

[ISAC Press Releases](#)[ISAC State Legislative Update](#)[Illinois General Assembly Legislative Reports](#)[ISAC Press Releases](#)[Illinois General Assembly Legislative Reports](#)[ISAC State Legislative Update](#)[Home](#) > [E-Library](#) > [Press Releases And State Legislative Update](#) > [ISAC State Legislative Update](#)

## ISAC State Legislative Update

**Katharine Gricevich**  
**Director of Government Relations**  
**May 3, 2022**

When the second spring session of the 102<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly adjourned in the early hours of April 9<sup>th</sup>, it was technically one day later than scheduled, but it was still well ahead of the typical May 31<sup>st</sup> conclusion. Although it's been abbreviated, this session will have important and consequential changes for higher education and financial aid.

Driving many of this year's changes and increased investments was a significant bump in state revenue – particularly the "big three" sources of personal income tax, corporate income tax, and sales tax – compared to what had been projected previously: In spring, analysts estimated that state fiscal year 2022 (FY22) would close with state revenue well above earlier estimates. For FY23, revenue is now projected to drop from the final FY22 level, but analysts still expect it to be several percentage points above the level that was anticipated when the FY23 budgeting process began. (More details are available from the General Assembly's Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability's [March 2022 Monthly Briefing](#) and [Three-Year Budget Forecast: FY 2023 – FY 2025](#).)

[ISAC Press Releases](#)[Illinois General Assembly Legislative Reports](#)[ISAC State Legislative Update](#)

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### BUDGET

#### *FY22 Supplemental*

With the state's FY22 revenue much higher than predicted, Governor Pritzker advocated using a significant portion of the windfall to pay down outstanding debts. In March, General Assembly Democrats quickly passed **SB 2803** (Holmes/Harris – now Public Act [102-0696](#)), which made supplemental appropriations for FY22 to pay off \$4.1 billion in debt and, according to sponsors, to save taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in interest payments over time. The bill directed \$2.7 billion to the state's unemployment insurance trust fund, which was hard hit during the first months of the pandemic and still has a sizeable deficit; \$898 million to pay off old debts for state employee health insurance; and a \$300 million "extra" payment towards state pensions.

The bill also directs **\$230 million to the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund, essentially eliminating the unfunded liability for the College Illinois!® Prepaid Tuition Program in one year and fulfilling the state's commitment to the Program's contract holders and beneficiaries.** This upfront funding approach – paying down the liability at once rather than seeking smaller, annual appropriations to reduce the unfunded liability gradually – is expected to save the state \$75 million over time, which sponsors argued is a win not just for contract-holders but for all Illinois taxpayers.

#### *FY23 Budget Package: State Highlights*

Passed just a few weeks later, the budget package for FY23 makes further significant changes and investments: [House Bill 900](#) (Welch/Sims – now Public Act [102-0698](#)) allocates state and federal funding for FY23 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023). [HB 4700](#) (Harris/Sims – now Public Act [102-0699](#)) is the accompanying budget implementation bill (BIMP), which amends statute as needed to enact the budget. Finally, [Senate Bill 157](#) (Hastings/Zalewski – now Public Act [102-0700](#)) makes related changes to statutes governing state revenue.

### ISAC Press Releases

### Illinois General Assembly Legislative Reports

### ISAC State Legislative Update

- A \$2.3 million increase for the **Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program** will bring its total funding to \$4.2 million. This will allow the agency to fully implement reforms made to the program last January, including increasing the grant size, serving more students, and adding a new priority category for bilingual applicants. The agency looks forward to working with institutional and community partners to ensure that potential applicants are aware of these opportunities and applying for them.
- The budget also boosts the state's investment for programs to attract and retain nurses in Illinois. It increases funding for the **Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program** from \$264,000 to \$500,000, and it doubles funding for the **Nursing Education Scholarship Program** from \$2 million to \$4 million while moving the program from the Illinois Department of Public Health to ISAC (a transition that will occur as soon as feasible during FY23). These scholarships support students who commit to providing direct patient care (licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, or an advanced practice registered nurse) and those who would like to become a nurse educator.
- **ISAC programs that received funding at their FY22 levels** include AIM HIGH; Teacher Loan Repayment; the Grant Program for Exonerates; the Grant Programs for the Dependents of Police, Fire, and Correctional Officers killed or severely and permanently disabled in the line of duty; the Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment Program; Golden Apple Scholars and Golden Apple Accelerators; the Higher Education License Plate Program; and the Optometric Education Scholarship Program.
- **Federal funds** for the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship (funded via DHS) and the two Golden Apple programs (funded via the state's Local CURE Fund, which uses federal COVID recovery dollars) were re-appropriated to continue to allow those resources to be spent as intended when they were first allocated to the programs last year.
- **Multiple additional programs will be funded for the first time:**
  - A \$6 million appropriation will be split between two programs approved last year but not yet funded: a loan repayment program for school social workers (also see SB 3761 below for potential changes to this program) and a grant program for Master of Social Work degree-holders who are seeking professional educators' licenses so that they can work as school social workers.
  - A Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program will be administered by ISAC with funding from the Department of Human Services. Enacted in 2016, this will be the first year the program actually receives funding.
  - The Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship, a grant program for the dependents of displaced workers in the energy sector such as coal miners and coal-fired power plant employees, was created last year under Public Act [102-0662](#). Administered by ISAC with funding from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the program is expected to make its first grants during FY23, as well.



# How to Use the Illinois General Assembly Website - [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov)

- There are a number of useful tools on the Illinois General Assembly website that can help you learn about our state legislators, the work of various committees and the status of proposed legislation as it progresses through the legislative process.
- For example, to learn which legislators are serving on committees related to higher education, you can connect to the list of Committees for the Senate and/or the House and from there learn more about the bills they are proposing and when the hearings will take place.
- The site offers a few ways to find out what bills could be heard in committees and when
- There is also a feature called “My Legislation” that allows you to create a free account and build a list of bills that interest you and that you can check for updates.
- The “My Legislation” link is on the homepage, and once you navigate to it, there is a helpful user guide that explains the tools available and how to use



Translate Website

SESSION SCHEDULE

SENATE  
Not In Today  
Next: 3/7/2023

HOUSE  
Not In Today

Search the 103rd General Assembly

By Number  
(example: HB0001)

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Discrimination & Harassment Information

Legislative Inspector General

Legislative Budget Oversight Commission

Rules & Regulations

Illinois Register

Administrative Rules

The Illinois General Assembly website lists the schedules for both the House and Senate  
[ilga.gov/house/schedules/default.asp](http://ilga.gov/house/schedules/default.asp)  
[ilga.gov/senate/schedules/default.asp](http://ilga.gov/senate/schedules/default.asp)

**SESSION SCHEDULE**

**SENATE**  
Not In Today  
Next: 3/21/2023

**HOUSE**  
Not In Today  
Next: 3/14/2023

Search the 103rd General Assembly

By Number  
(example: HB0001)

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By Keyword

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103rd General Assembly

**Hearing Notice For Appropriations - Health and Human Services**

Pursuant to Senate Rule 3-1(f), this hearing may include remote participation by witnesses. Individuals wishing to testify remotely must submit a request under the remote hearing process outlined on the General Assembly website. Witnesses who have been approved to provide remote testimony will participate via Zoom.

[Members](#) [Notice of Hearing](#) [Bills](#)

**Hearing Scheduled for Mar 15, 2023** [Create Witness Slips](#)

**Chair:** Ann Gillespie  
**Vice-Chair:** Julie A. Morrison  
**Minority Spokesperson:** Dave Syverson  
**Scheduled Date:** Mar 15, 2023 11:00AM  
**Location:** C-600 Michael A. Bilandic Building 160 N. La Salle St. Chicago, IL  
**Posting Date:** Mar 09, 2023 4:54PM  
**Subject Matter:** Subject Matter On: SB2521 Department of Human Rights, SB2490 Human Rights Commission, SB 2521, SB 2490  
**Secretary of the Senate:** Tim Anderson

Bill #	Sponsor	ABR - Short Description	Last Action
*At this time, no legislation has been assigned.			

The site offers a few ways to find out what bills could be heard in committees & when.

You can select "Schedules" from the homepage or start with "Committees" and focus on committees (e.g. Higher Ed and Approp – Higher Ed) that are most likely to hear bills of interest to you.

Each committee schedule will list the location for each committee meeting.

Choose "Audio/Video" to watch or listen to a livestream.

**SESSION SCHEDULE**  
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HOUSE  
Not In Today  
Next: 3/14/2023

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(example: HB0001)

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Each chamber provides instructions on how to submit testimony for committees, which include email addresses where you can submit written testimony or a request to provide oral testimony during a hearing.

If you do not want to provide testimony but would still like to officially register a position on a bill, you can file a witness slip via the "GA Dashboard." You need not be present (or logged in) to make your opinion known.





# Illinois 103rd General Assembly ILGA Dashboard

General Assembly:

103rd G.A. (2023-2025)

Go

Some content is currently unavailable as the new General Assembly information is set up.

- Home
- House
- Senate
- ILGA.GOV
- Help
- Register

## Session Schedule

	Today	Scheduled
House	No Session Today	Next: 3/14/2023
Senate	No Session Today	Next: 3/21/2023

## Today's House Committee Hearings

[View Hearing Details](#)

Date / Time	Committee
No records to display.	

Displaying items 0 - 0 of 0

## Today's Senate Committee Hearings

[View Hearing Details](#)

Date / Time	Committee
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← → ↻ 🏠 ilga.gov



# Illinois General Assembly

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**SESSION SCHEDULE**

**SENATE**  
Not In Today  
Next: 3/21/2023

**HOUSE**  
Not In Today  
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Search the 103rd

**Legislation & Bills & Resolutions Public Acts**

**Senate Members Schedules Committees**

Build Query

ILCS Query

Add Bills

Edit Bills

View Bills

Reports

Help

The Illinois General Assembly Public Inquiry Service allows users to create and maintain multiple bill lists for the purpose of tracking and obtaining reports on legislation.

- [Registration - My Legislation Profile](#)
- [Build Query](#)
- [Build ILCS Query](#)
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- [Edit Bills](#)
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**Registration:**

Users can register for **My Legislation**, which provides the capability to save files from day-to-day and provides support for users of this feature. Each user is required to fill out the required fields for your: **My Legislation Profile**. Need to change your Email Address or Password? [Click here](#).

Home Legislation & Laws Senate House **My Legislation** Site Map

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Build ILCS Query

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**Help**

Log Off

**Welcome to My Legislation!**

Welcome to My Legislation. This feature allows you to create, store, and maintain customized lists of bills to track. It also allows you to create, store, and maintain customized queries to produce your own reports on legislation. If you have any questions on how to use My Legislation, please refer to the user guide linked on the left or below.

If you have any questions about the use of your email address or the privacy of your information, please see the privacy policy in the Disclaimers link below.

**Registration**

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**User Manual**

High-speed connection users: [Click here](#) to view the user guide for using My Legislation.

Dial-up users: Right-click on the above link and choose "Save Target As". Then assign a name to the file and save the user manual to your computer's hard drive. Then, view the user manual using the local copy. (This is a large file and will take a substantial amount of time to download.)



# Illinois General Assembly

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Build ILCS Query

Add Bills

Edit Bills

View

Reports

Log Off

My Legislation Profile.

Enter your Email Address\*

Enter a Password\*

Enter your New Email Address

Re-Enter your New Email Address

Enter your New Password

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# Illinois General Assembly

Toolkit Sample

Help

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Save To

<a href="#">HB1005</a>	<a href="#">Mary E. Flowers</a>	CITY COLL OF CHI-NURSE PROGRAM	02/21/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1005</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB1097</a>	<a href="#">Mary E. Flowers</a>	HIGHER ED-GRANT-EXONERATED	02/21/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1097</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB1264</a>	<a href="#">Maurice A. West, II</a>	COM COL-TRUSTEE DISTRICTS	02/15/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1264</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB1374</a>	<a href="#">Dave Vella</a>	COMM COL-POLICE/FIREFIGHTER	02/15/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1374</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB1606</a>	<a href="#">Cyril Nichols</a>	HIGHER ED-COMM COLLEGE GRANT	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1606</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB1643</a>	<a href="#">Blaine Wilhour</a>	UNIV OF IL-ADMIT IN-STATE STU	02/15/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 1643</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2157</a>	<a href="#">Gregg Johnson</a>	HIGHER ED STUDENTS-DISABILITY	02/23/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2157</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2380</a>	<a href="#">Lindsey LaPointe</a>	HIGHER ED-HUM SERV LOAN REPAY	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2380</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2510</a>	<a href="#">Suzanne M. Ness</a>	HIGHER ED-MAP GRANTS-COM COL	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2510</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2593</a>	<a href="#">Dan Caulkins</a>	HIGHER ED-MAP-DUAL CREDIT	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2593</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2823</a>	<a href="#">Aaron M. Ortiz</a>	HIGHER ED-IN STATE TUITION	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2823</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2898</a>	<a href="#">Maurice A. West, II</a>	HIGHER ED-MONETARY AWARD PROG	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2898</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB2899</a>	<a href="#">Maurice A. West, II</a>	HIGHER ED-FOR PROFIT INST-MAP	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 2899</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB3151</a>	<a href="#">Lawrence "Larry" Walsh, Jr.</a>	COM COL-PUBLIC SERVICE-LOANS	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee
****	<b>HB 3151</b>	<b>Higher Education Committee Hearing Mar 8 2023 4:00PM Capitol Building Room 122B Springfield, IL</b>			
<a href="#">HB3328</a>	<a href="#">Jackie Haas</a>	COM COL-BACHELOR'S DEGREE	02/28/2023	House	Assigned to Higher Education Committee

Through the use of the “My Legislation” tool, you can build a query based on several different options, and save the query for future use.

A list of legislation will be generated based on your query, similar to this sample, showing bill numbers, when the hearing is scheduled for, where it is in the process, etc.



# Financial Aid 101 for Staffers

- **What Financial Aid Administrators Do**

- [www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/what\\_FAs\\_do\\_PDF2.pdf](http://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/what_FAs_do_PDF2.pdf)

- For students and families:

- Know what aid is available, who qualifies for aid, how aid is equitably distributed, and the renewal requirements for subsequent years.
- Help students file applications accurately and verify their eligibility for aid Assist students on a personal level by fostering financial literacy and debt management, and by mitigating unusual circumstances that might otherwise hinder a student's academic progress.
- Advocate for streamlining and simplifying the aid application process and for policies that ensure the federal financial aid programs are structured and implemented in a way to promote postsecondary access and success.

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- **What Financial Aid Administrators Do**

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- For the institutions they work for:

- Help enroll and retain students; many students could not attend or remain in school without financial assistance.
- Facilitate receipt of financial aid to help students meet institutional costs.
- Manage student employment; on-campus jobs help support academic departments, libraries, food service, and other facets of institutional operations. Ensure compliance with voluminous and detailed federal, state, and local statute and regulations, and often coordinate campuswide compliance.
- Maintain membership and participate in professional associations, such as NASFAA, which provides opportunities for advocacy and professional development.



# Financial Aid 101 for Staffers

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- For their communities:

- Connect student employees with community service opportunities, literacy projects, and local businesses.
- Act as a resource for high school counselors and community based college access programs and initiatives.
- Speak at college nights or other events to explain budgeting, financial literacy, and financing an education beyond high school.
- Serve as a resource for adults who may have an interest in attending or completing college.



# Financial Aid 101 for Staffers

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- For policy makers and their staff:

- Offer feedback from an institutional perspective on student aid legislation and proposals.
- Provide financial aid success stories of students from your state or district.
- Explain the financial aid needs and challenges of students in your state or district.
- Supply statistics detailing the amount of aid that benefits students from your state or district.
- Illustrate how compliance with certain existing and proposed statutes can hinder opportunities to assist and counsel students.

# Tracking & Responding to Legislation

## State Laws and Regulations

- A helpful tool for finding state laws and regulations is the Law Library of Congress' guide for each state.
  - [guides.loc.gov/law-us-illinois](https://guides.loc.gov/law-us-illinois)
- As part of their efforts to serve students and the higher education community in Illinois, IBHE, ICCB, ISAC and IDVA closely monitor legislation affecting colleges and universities and their students
- These agencies also propose legislative initiatives to advance priorities and addresses issues raised by members of the General Assembly.
- Additionally, institutions and the financial aid administrator community monitor and provide recommendations and information to the General Assembly
- There are many ways to communicate with your elected official – from letters – to phone calls – to in-person visits.



# Tracking & Responding to Legislation

## Writing Letters

- When writing letters, make sure that your writing is clear and precise.
- Include your name and address.
- Follow one of these standard ways for addressing your legislator:

### For letters to State Senators:

The Honorable (First Name, Last Name)  
Illinois State Senate  
Statehouse  
Springfield IL 62706  
Dear Senator:

### For letters to State Representatives:

The Honorable (First Name, Last Name)  
Illinois House of Representatives  
Statehouse  
Springfield, IL 62706  
Dear Representative:

### For letters to Members of Congress:

The Honorable (First Name, Last Name)  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Street Address  
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable (First Name, Last Name)  
U.S. Senate  
Street Address  
Washington, D.C.

For specific addresses, visit [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)  
or [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).



# Tracking & Responding to Legislation

## Phone Calls

- A phone call can be a very fast, immediate way to communicate your position on an issue, or to find out your legislator's position
- Contact the State of Illinois at 217-782-2000 or 312-814-3500 to get specific numbers for members of the General Assembly or visit [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov).
- For members of the U.S. Congress, call 202-224-3121 or visit [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov).

## In-Person Meetings

- To schedule a meeting with your legislator, call his or her office to speak with a staff member.
- Identify yourself as a constituent, and indicate the issue you would like to discuss.
- In-person meetings are particularly effective if you are impacted by a particular piece of legislation.

## Legislative Testimony at the General Assembly

- Legislative hearings are held throughout the legislative process during the committee phase. To find out if a bill has been scheduled for a hearing, call the Legislative Information Service at 217-782-3944 or visit [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov).

# Tracking & Responding to Legislation

- Most higher education institutions have:
  - one or more staff members assigned to handle government relations for their institution,
  - someone on contract to handle government relations for their institution, **and/or**
  - one or more memberships in organizations that represent the interests of their sector (e.g., the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges & Universities, the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, the Illinois Community College Trustees Association)
- These individuals and organizations can be helpful points of contact.
- If you haven't already, you can reach out to them to let them know that you can be a resource for them and find out how you can be kept apprised of what's happening in the legislature.

# Resources

- **capitolfax.com/**
  - Daily news and insights from the Capitol
- **hannah-il.com/Login/Index.html**
  - Hannah news service, for statehouse news, information and research
  - Legislative tracking service
    - [www.hannahnews.com/features/legislation-bill-tracking-service/](http://www.hannahnews.com/features/legislation-bill-tracking-service/)
  - Capitol Connection
    - [www.hannahnews.com/products/capitol-connection/](http://www.hannahnews.com/products/capitol-connection/)
- **guides.loc.gov/law-us-illinois**
  - Guide to Law Online: U.S. Illinois
- **nasfaa.org/Advocacy\_Policy\_ResearchNasfaa.org**
  - NASFAA Advocacy webpage
  - Legislative Tracker
    - [www.nasfaa.org/legislative\\_tracker](http://www.nasfaa.org/legislative_tracker)
- **isac.org**
  - Katharine's State Legislative Update
    - [isac.org/e-library/prs-rls-st-leg/isac-state-legislative-updates/](http://isac.org/e-library/prs-rls-st-leg/isac-state-legislative-updates/)





More information, along with  
the ILASFAA Legislative Toolkit  
will be available soon at  
[ilasfaa.org](http://ilasfaa.org)