

Operational Update and Program News

August 28, 2024



Agenda

- 2023-24 Operational Update
- 2024-25 Operational Update
- 2025-26 Operational Update
- Dates and Events to Remember
- ISAC Contact Information
- Questions



2023-24 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2024



2023-24 Close Out

- Debit letters for the 2023-24 ISAC programs have been sent to Financial Aid Directors.
 - These are sent to institutions that have an outstanding amount due to ISAC for one or more of these programs.
 - o The letter provides a summary of the total amount due to ISAC for each program.
 - All refund checks should be made payable to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.
 - Refund checks should be accompanied by a <u>Gift Assistance Programs Check Return Form</u>, and the specific term(s) and program(s) for each refund must be identified.
 - Please do not send refund checks to ISAC without providing the appropriate adjustment data.
- Funds are due to ISAC by September 30, 2024.
- The address to send checks and the Check Return Form to is:
 - Finance & Accounting Division J10
 Illinois Student Assistance Commission
 1755 Lake Cook Rd
 Deerfield, IL 60015-5209
- Questions may be directed ISAC's School Services Department at 866-247-2172 or <u>isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov</u>



isac.org/faas/processes/refunds-and-unpaid-claims/

provides the following:

· information about program funds being returned;

Student Assistance Commission, should be sent to:

Finance & Accounting division - J10

1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, IL 60015-5209

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

school for awards that are cancelled or reduced during the academic year



1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, IL 60015-5209 866.247.2172 isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov

GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS REFUND CHECK FORM

Please report the dollar amount refunded for each program/year if submitting a single check with funds for **multiple** programs or academic years.

Mail Refund Checks to:

DATE SENT TO ISAC SCHOOL NAME

MAP CODE /ED CODE/IVG CODE

Finance & Accounting Division - J10
Illinois Student Assistance Commission

1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, IL 60015-5209

To ensure refunds are credited to the correct account (both school and/or student) and the appropriate ISAC gift assistance program, please complete the requested information below.

PROGRAM(S)												
ACADEMIC YEAR(S)												
VOUCHER NUMBER (specific to the above academic year)												
TERM(S)												
CHECK NUMBER												
CHECK DOLLAR AMOUNT	\$											
REASON FOR REFUND												
[] Returning Amount Due at End owed.	Returning Amount Due at End of Year: Per ISAC's letter indicating total amoun owed.											
Provide the students' nar Indicate actual credit hou List dollar amount refund	Current and/or Prior Year Refund: Provide the students' names and Social Security numbers (last 4-digits); Indicate actual credit hours enrolled; List dollar amount refunded for each term; and State the institution's reason for the refund.											
	External Compliance: ISAC's Finance & Accounting Division will forward a copy of th Final Program Review Report to the appropriate internal department.											
[] Other Refund: Provide Explana	tion											

Home Financial Aid Administrators Processes Refunds And Unpaid Claims MAP Electronic Processing **Refunds and Unpaid Claims** MAP Advising Data Collection MPCH Adjustments (COVID: Spring Upon receipt of disbursements, schools must verify each recipient's enrollment status for the term for which payment was made. When it is becomes necessary for schools to return scholarship and grant program funds to ISAC, it must be done in a timely manner. A Gift Assistance Refund Check NON-MAP Programs Adjustments Form must also be completed and submitted along with the payment. (COVID: Spring 2020) ING Grant Electronic Processing In regard to unpaid claims, schools or students can seek recourse at the end of the year through the Court of Claims, Appropriate documentation must accompany all claim forms, All correspondence IVG Electronic Processing must be written, and filing a claim does not guarantee payment. As of July 1, 2000, there is a two-ECACE Electronic Processing year time limit to file Court of Claims. GA Electronic Processing MTI Electronic Processing NES Electronic Processing Social Work Scholarship Program Electronic Processing **SETTW Electronic Processing** Gift Assistance Budget Instructions External Compliance Program Review State Comptroller's Website Home) Financial Aid Administrators) Processes) Refunds And Unpaid Claims) Returning Program Funds To ISA Refunds And Unpaid Claims Returning Program Funds To ISAC Returning Program Funds to ISAC Court Of Claims Payment Offset And Reconciliation When it is necessary for schools to return scholarship and grant program funds to ISAC, a Gift

Assistance Refund Check Form must be completed and submitted along with the payment. It

The Gift Assistance Refund Check Form, along with the check(s) made payable to the Illinois

ensures that refunds are credited to the proper account (both school and/or student), program, and academic year, and
 in situations where the school checks the box "current and/or prior year refund," the form asks that a list of student names and SSNs for whom payment is being returned be attached.

ISAC will continue to offset Monetary Award Program (MAP) funds from future payments to the

ISAC Gift Assistance Programs Other Programs Processes ISAC Administrative Rules E-Library Partner Training

ISAC #3247 06/19 (ON3247 Web 6/19)
Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

2024-25 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2025



2024-25 ISAC Program Appropriations

- MAP \$711,566,200 (increase)
- Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois \$10,750,000
- Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship \$8,000,000
- Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment \$7,500,000 (increase)
- IVG and ING Grant reimbursement \$6,000,000 (new funding)
- Social Work Scholarship/Repayment programs (combined appropriation) \$6,000,000
- Human Services Professional Loan Repayment \$5,250,000 (new funding)
- ECACE Scholarship \$5,000,000 (new state funding)
- Nursing Education Scholarships (NES) \$4,000,000
- Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship \$2,000,000 (new funding)
- Dependents of Police, Fire or Correctional Officers \$1,300,000
- Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship \$1,100,000
- Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment \$975,000
- Nurse Educator Loan Repayment \$500,000
- Grant Program for Exonerees \$150,000
- Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment \$26,400
- AIM HIGH Grant \$50,000,000*

^{*} AIM HIGH Program funds are disbursed in lump sums by ISAC to public universities



2024-25 MAP Suspension

- ISAC has suspended the announcement of 2024-25 MAP grants.
- Applications that were received on or after Wednesday, August 21, 2024, will be held in suspense status.
- Suspense occurs when projections indicate appropriation will be exhausted.
- ISAC staff will continue to monitor MAP application volume and claim rates to see if future analysis indicates any release of awards from suspense status is possible.
- Students are still encouraged to complete a FAFSA or Alternative Application.
- August 15 e-Message: <u>isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0815.html</u>



2024-25 MAP Suspension

- MAP records in suspense status will be indicated by a MAP Suspend Code of "S" in the MAP system and in the MAP Eligibility File Extraction.
 - S = New application received after the suspense date will not be considered for an award this year.
- Colleges must suspend announcements of MAP awards to applicants whose initial 2024-25 application (FAFSA or Alternative Application) receipt date is on or after Wednesday, August 21, 2024.
 - ISAC is not notifying affected applicants that their awards have been placed in suspense status.
 - Colleges are advised to follow their own policies and procedures regarding communicating announcement information to students with suspended awards.



2024-25 MAP Payment Processing

- Schools may submit 2024-25 payment requests for the Fall term (first-term).
- 2024-25 MAP maximum award amount is \$8,400.
- Payment requests may be submitted through the MAP system in GAP Access or via the File Transfer Protocol process.
- Payment requests are processed on a nightly basis and results are provided the next business day.
- Any 2024-25 payment requests that were submitted via FTP prior to August 28, 2024, will not be processed, and will need to be resubmitted by the college.
- Deadlines date for the Fall term is Friday, December 6, 2024.
- August 28 e-Message: <u>isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0828.html</u>



2024-25 MAP Payment Processing

What's New for 2024-25 Payment Processing?

- An override function has been added to the MAP payment request process.
 - This may be used by a school when it is determined that a dependent student meets the Illinois residency requirement as defined in the recently-amended ISAC Administrative Rules for the 2024-25 academic year.
 - The rules amendment is intended to address situations where a dependent student who is an Illinois resident resides with a parent who is also an Illinois resident, but the student was required to list an out-of-state parent contributor on the FAFSA.
- For dependent students who have answered questions on the FAFSA or Alternative Application that result in them being considered provisionally independent, a "Z" code will be provided on the student record for dependency status.
 - The "Z" code indicates that either a professional judgment must be done to determine if a dependency override is appropriate or parental data must be provided so that the correct dependency status can be determined.



Student Detail: Payment Screen

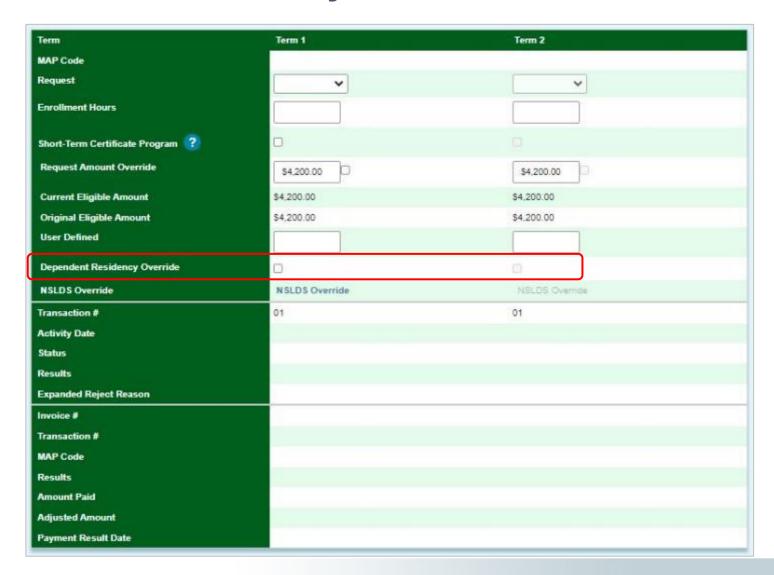
- A Dependent Residency Override function has been implemented on the Student
 Detail: Payment screen due to the rule amendments to the definition of "Resident of Illinois" and "Determining Applicant Eligibility" for the MAP grant, effective beginning in 2024-25.
- This is intended to address situations for dependent students with divorced or separated parents who reside in Illinois with a parent who is also an Illinois resident, but the student was required to list an out-of-state parent contributor on the FAFSA.

Term	Term 1
MAP Code	064
Request	~
Enrollment Hours	
Short-Term Certificate Program ?	0
Request Amount Override	\$4,200.00
Current Eligible Amount	\$4,200.00
Original Eligible Amount	\$4,200.00
User Defined	
Dependent Residency Override	
NSLDS Override	NSLDS Override

Checking the box will override the MAP disqualify code that will appear in the MAP system for dependent students whose parent contributor does not report Illinois as their state of residence on the FAFSA.



Student Detail: Payment Screen





MAP 160-Byte File Specifications

- Effective with the 2024-25 award year, Field #15 on the FTP file may be used to provide a Dependent Residency Override.
- The Dependent Residency Override field should be populated with a Y as part of
 the payment request process, which is intended to address situations for
 dependent students with divorced or separated parents who reside in Illinois
 with a parent who is also an Illinois resident, but the student was required to list
 an out-of-state parent contributor on the FAFSA.

			2024-25 MAP 160 B Specifica		ayout			
Position		ving #pleid	160 byte record layout will be used for to	ransmitting d	ata between sc School to ISAC	chools and ISAC.		
				(Length)	Payment or Cancellation Request	Elig File	Payment Results	
Start	End				MAP Only	MAP	MAP	
160 Byte Format								
1	3	1	Applicable MAP School Code	9(03)	Х	Х	X	
4	4	2	Record Type	<u>X(</u> 01)	4	7	5/6	
5	5	3	Term Enrolled	9(01)	=1, 2, or 3		=1, 2, or 3	
6	7	4	College Year	9(02)	25	25	25	
8	8	5	Payment Request Code (valid values = P or C)	<u>X(</u> 01)	Х		Х	
9	14	6	Title IV School Code	<u>X(</u> 06)	X	Х	X	
15	50	7	Person UUID	<u>X(</u> 36)	Χ	Х	X	
51	53	8	Filler	<u>X(</u> 03)				
54	54	9	User Defined	<u>X(</u> 01)				
55	61	10	Requested Award Amount for Term	9(05)V99	X		Х	
62	62	11	ING Certified	<u>X(</u> 01)				
63	64	12	Transaction Number	9(02)	Х		Х	
65	65	13	Continuing Student	<u>X(</u> 01)		Χ	X	
66	66	14	Paid Previous Year	X(01)		Χ*	X	
67	67	15	Dependent Residency Override	<u>X(</u> 01)	Opt*			
68	68	16	Payment Result Code	<u>X(</u> 01)			X	
69	75	17	Payment Results Amount Paid for Term	9(05)V99			X	
76	82	18	Adjusted Amt from Previous Payment Results	S9(05)V99			X	



2024-25 MAP Payment Processing

- MAP payment requests are expected to be submitted on correct ISIR transactions.
 - ISAC is aware that many initial 2024-25 ISIRs had various errors due to ED issues, and that initial award offers may have been made based on those, however, MAP payment requests should be submitted on corrected ISIR transactions.
 - Based on MAP rules and ISAC's operational procedures:
 - Colleges are expected to notify students if, as the result of a reprocessed ISIR, a student's MAP award amount changes or a student loses eligibility.
 - Institutions are expected to communicate changes and adjustments to the student.
 - A student's MAP claim should be submitted to ISAC on a valid, correct ISIR.
 - This guidance applies not just to ISIRs reprocessed by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), but for any subsequent ISIR transactions generated due to school or student corrections throughout the award year.
 - ➤ MAP Award Announcements: <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/</u>



2024-25 MAP Payment Processing

MAP User Guides:

- 2024-25 MAP 160-Byte File Layout Specifications: <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/2425-MAP-160byte-File-Layout.pdf</u>
- Eligibility chapter of MAP User Guide: <u>isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-EligibilityUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf</u>
- Payment chapter of MAP User Guide: <u>isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-PaymentUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf</u>



Home | ISAC Gift Assistance Programs | Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Program News

(last updated August 28, 2024)

2024-25 Program Funding

Suspension of 2024-25 Award Announcements

2024-25 Payment (first-term claims due December 6, 2024)

2024-25 Recompute Formula

2024-25 Start-up Implementation

2024-25 Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout Specifications

2024-25 Operational Guide for Alternative Application Processing

2024-25 Award Announcements

2024-25 Start-up Formula

2024-25 File Layout Specifications

2023-24 Reconciliation - Due to ISAC Notifications

Additional MAP References

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Program Overview

Applying

Suspense

Eligibility

Award Announcements

Formula

MAP Paid Credit Hours

Special Enrollment Circumstances

Budget Reporting

Payment

Reconciliation

MAP Electronic Processing

Home | ISAC Gift Assistance Programs | Monetary Award Program (MAP) | Applying

Application Procedures for MAP

{ISAC Rules, Section 2735.30}

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

Students Correcting Alternative Applications

Dependency Status Overrides

Financial Aid Administrators Correcting Alternative Applications

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) serves as the application for the MAP grant. Each student who reports Illinois as their state of legal residence automatically applies for MAP when completing the FAFSA annually. The FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible after it becomes available* for the academic year for which assistance is being requested. Returning MAP recipients (i.e., students who received MAP funds during the prior academic year and continue to meet all eligibility requirements) who submit their FAFSAs by that academic year's priority deadline date (set by ISAC annually) will receive priority access to appropriated MAP funds.

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Program Overview

Applying

2024-25 Critical Data

SSN Changes

2024-25 Operational Guide For Alternative Application

Suspense

Eligibility

Award Announcements

Formula

MAP Paid Credit Hours

Special Enrollment Circumstances

Budget Reporting



2024-25 Graduate Flag Issue

Issue:

- The student selected "First Bachelor's Degree Before 2024-25 School Year" on their FAFSA incorrectly
 - or, answered the question incorrectly about their grade level
- The student received the Graduate Flag indicator and is now disqualified to be eligible for the MAP grant (disqualify 4).
- The student resubmits their FAFSA with the correct answer but continues to be ineligible (disqualified) for the MAP grant.

Resolution:

- If schools have identified a student who has made a correction to their FAFSA regarding the above issue, but is still showing they are ineligible (disqualified) for the MAP grant, the schools may resubmit the correction through the FAFSA Partner Portal.
- This should fix the issue and the new ISIR transaction should indicate the student is eligible for the MAP grant.



2024-25 Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program

- For the first time since the program's creation, it will be funded by the State of Illinois rather than by federal funds.
- Appropriation is \$5 million for award year 2024-25.
- A student may receive a maximum annual award amount of up to \$7,500.
 - The scholarship will help pay cost of attendance after other financial aid received.
- Graduate students are no longer eligible for the scholarship.
 - Only undergraduate students may apply.
- ECACE will no longer fund the Summer term.
 - Awards will only be available for the Fall, Winter and Spring terms only.



2024-25 ECACE Scholarship Program

- Application continues to be available at the ISAC Student Portal even though the priority application consideration date was Sunday, August 11, 2024.
 - Applications received after that date will be considered only if funding remains after all timely, qualified applicants have been awarded.
- Along with a completed ECACE application, an applicant must complete and submit a FAFSA or Alternative Application for the same academic year.
- Awarding prioritization is based on an applicant's renewal or new status and their Student Aid Index (SAI), from lowest to highest.
- Recipients of the scholarship are still expected to continue or return to teaching or direct services in the early childhood care and education field in Illinois after they complete their program of study.

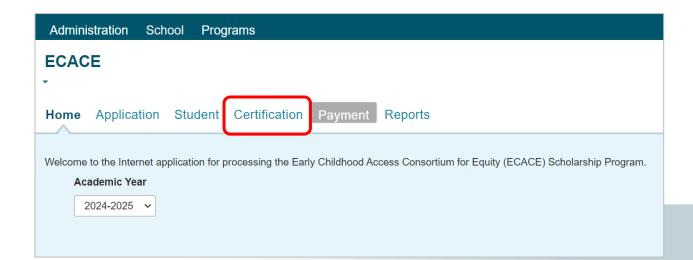


2024-25 ECACE Processing Cycle

- A few changes have been made to the ECACE processing cycle to better align the ECACE functionality with our other programs.
 - ECACE processing closely matches that of the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program.
- The Certification function allows colleges to view a listing of ECACE applicant records in the ECACE system as well as certify eligibility for qualified students.
- The "Student List Eligibility: View" screen displays applicants who listed your institution on their applications and whose applications have been reviewed by ISAC staff for completeness.
- Additional records will appear on the Student List on an ongoing basis as applications are reviewed.
 - Colleges should check the ECACE system on a regular basis for any new data that has been posted.

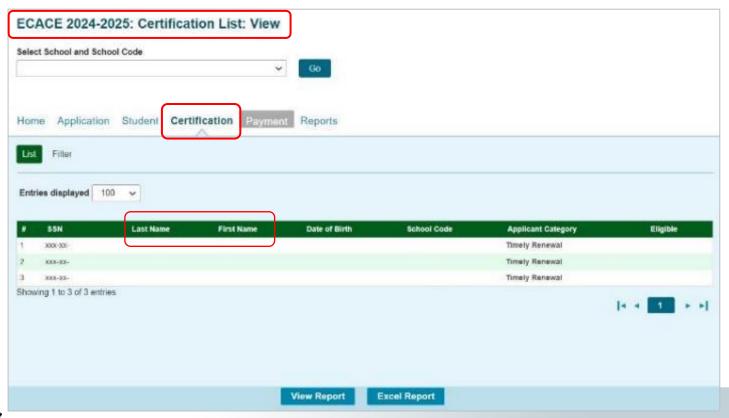


- Colleges may now certify 2024-25 eligibility in the ECACE system in GAP Access.
- Certification records are created for applicants who have completed the application process.
- These records appear in the "Certification List: View" screen, located under the "Certification" tab of the ECACE system.
- August 26 e-Message: <u>isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0826.html</u>



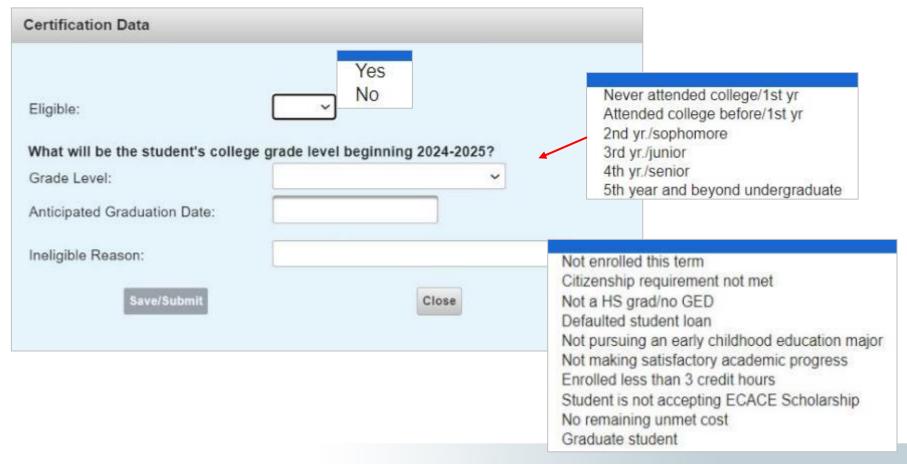


- Access the "Certification List: View screen to certify eligibility.
- Click on an individual student's name to open up a Certification Data screen for the student.





- Select "Yes" if the applicant is Eligible to receive the ECACE scholarship.
- Select "No" if the applicant is Ineligible to receive the ECACE scholarship.





- The certification data is to be entered on the screen, indicating whether the applicant is eligible or ineligible, then saved and submitted.
- Once certified, the applicant status information will be updated on the "Student List Eligibility: View" screen.
- Only records that need to be certified display on the Certification List.
- All Certifications available in the ECACE system must be completed regardless of whether the school certifies a student as eligible or ineligible.
- The only way an applicant will receive notification of their eligibility status from ISAC is if the certification record is submitted.



2024-25 ECACE Process

- Renewal applicants receive priority consideration.
- A complete application and a complete and eligible Certification record are required for consideration for an award.
- The only way an applicant will receive one of the notification letters is if the Certification is submitted.
- ECACE User Guide <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide-Aug2024.pdf</u>



2024-25 ECACE Process

What's Next? Student Award Announcements

- After the Certification process is completed by the schools, ISAC will begin the Awarding process and send the appropriate notification letters to each applicant.
- We will share program updates as they become available.

Resources

- ECACE e-Message August 26 <u>isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0826.html</u>
- ECACE <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/ECACE-scholarship/</u>



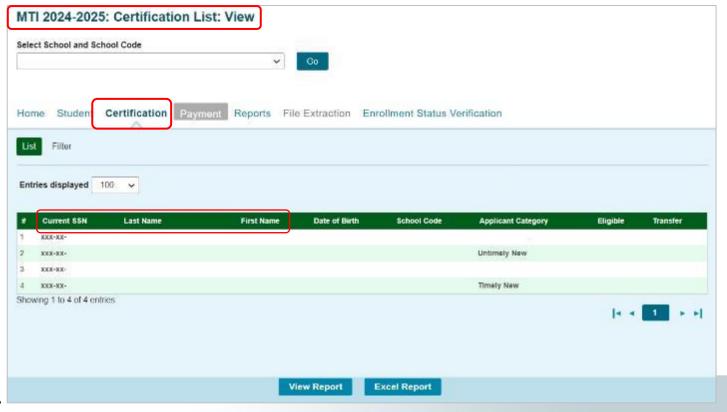
2024-25 Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

- Colleges are encouraged to continue certifying eligibility on a daily basis throughout the year, to ensure that your students will be included in the awarding process.
- All certification records available in the MTI system must be completed, regardless of whether the college certifies a student as eligible or ineligible and regardless of whether the student is currently enrolled.
- There have been no functional or operational changes made with the certification process.
- Online application remains available.
 - o Priority consideration date was March 31, 2024, to be considered Timely.
- The schedule for awarding 2024-25 MTI Scholars will be announced once determined.



MTI Student Certification Process

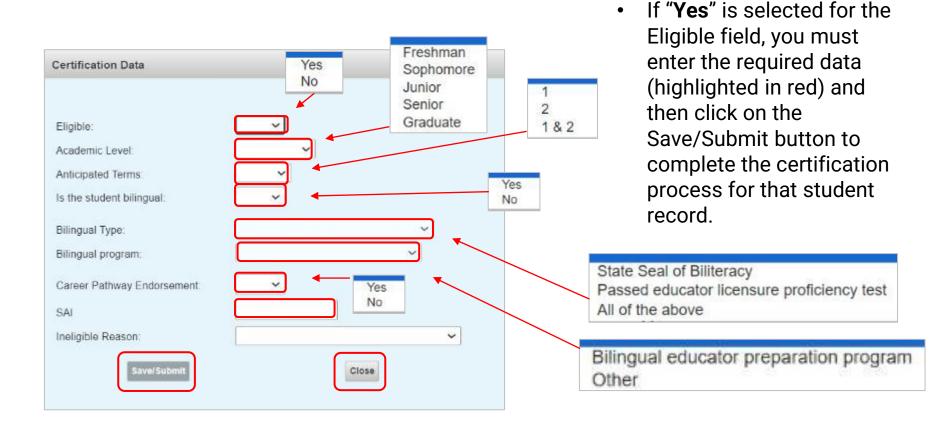
- The Certification List: View screen includes all applicants for whom ISAC has received a complete MTI application with your college listed on the application.
- To certify a student, click on the student's name or SSN.





MTI Student Certification Process

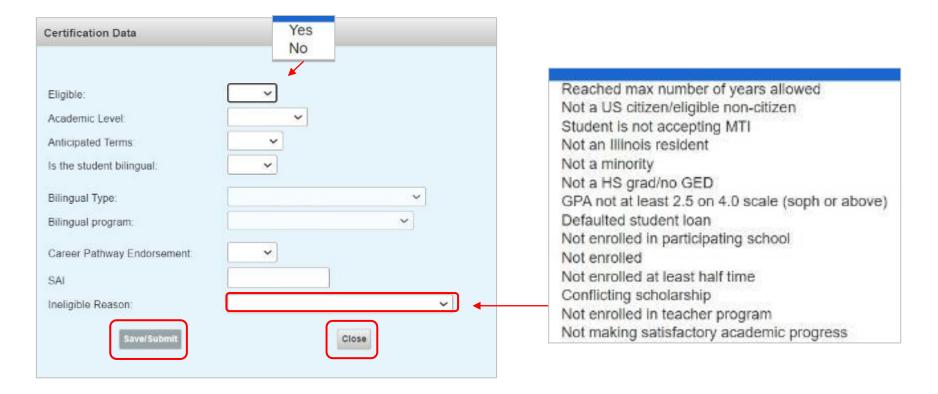
 Once you click on the student's name or SSN, the Certification Data pop-up box will appear.





MTI Student Certification Process

 If "No" is selected for the Eligible field, you must select an Ineligible Reason and then click on the Save/Submit button to complete the certification process for that student record.





MTI Certification Data Definitions

Qualified Bilingual Minority Applicant

- A qualified bilingual minority applicant is one who demonstrates proficiency in a language other than English by receiving:
 - o a <u>State Seal of Biliteracy</u> from the <u>State Board of Education</u>, or
 - receiving a passing score on an <u>educator licensure target language</u> <u>proficiency test</u>.

Resource Links:

- isbe.net/Pages/Home.aspx
- isbe.net/sealofbiliteracy
- isbe.net/Pages/Educator-License-with-Stipulations.aspx

Related Illinois Administrative Rules --

- ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/023/02300680sections.html
- ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/023/023006800000100R.html
 - Definitions -- "State Seal" or "Seal" means the State Seal of Biliteracy created by Section 2-3.159 of the Code and this Part.
- ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/023/023006800000200R.html



MTI Certification Data Definitions

State Seal of Biliteracy

- The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a school, district, or state in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.
- Illinois provides two awards: Seal of Biliteracy for those with a "high level of proficiency" - for most languages, this level is Intermediate High (4/5 on the AP Exam). A secondary award is the Commendation Toward Biliteracy (Intermediate-Low).
- Students must meet the language proficiency criteria in both English and the second language. The second language may be a home language, learned in school or through travel or outside means. Schools can find the State Seal of Biliteracy on both the student's diploma and transcript. Illinois state universities, by state law, are required to provide university credit for Seal recipients.
- For more information on testing and recognition information, visit the ISBE Seal of Biliteracy page <u>isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Seal-of-Biliteracy.aspx</u>



MTI Certification Data Definitions

Career Pathway Endorsement

- Pursuant to Section 80 of the <u>Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act</u>, school districts may award College and Career Pathway Endorsements to high school graduates. Students earn endorsements by completing an individualized learning plan, a career-focused instructional sequence, and professional learning opportunities. The endorsements incentivize career exploration and development, particularly in high-demand career fields.
- To earn a college and career pathways endorsement, students will have followed an individualized learning plan, career-focused instruction, career exploration activities and 60 hours of supervised career development experiences.
- For more information:
 - o <u>isbe.net/pathwayendorsements</u>
 - o <u>media.advanceillinois.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/04001239/Facts-about-HB5729-FINAL.pdf</u>



2024-25 Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- Tuition waivers have been awarded and students have been notified.
- Schools may now complete the tuition waiver process.
 - This is done by certifying eligibility in GAP Access for both newly-awarded students and transfer students in the SETTW system within GAP Access.
- If a qualified applicant is eligible for both the SETTW and the MAP grant, the SETTW award must be used first.
- Each of the public universities with students who were awarded 2024-25 tuition waivers have been sent an e-mail from ISAC.
 - Certify each student's eligibility within 60 days of the date on which the email is received.
- If subsequent 2024-25 SETTW awards are announced, ISAC will send similar e-mail messages to impacted institutions.



2024-25 Golden Apple (GA)

- Application processing, eligibility certification and awarding is performed by the Golden Apple Foundation goldenapple.org/scholars.
- Once ISAC receives student eligibility information from the Foundation, we will load it into GAP Access and open the system for payment processing.
- The Annual Award field in the GA system shows the Annual Award Amount
 To Date.
 - The Golden Apple Foundation only certifies/awards a student for one term at a time.
 - For example: If it is the beginning of the Fall term, the 'Annual Award Amount To Date' is reflecting the Fall term amount only, not the entire year award.
 - o If the same student is certified/awarded for Spring, you will see an increase in the 'Annual Award Amount To Date' to include the Spring award.
- Watch the FAA Message Board and for an e-Message announcement once the Fall term payment processing begins.



Dual-Awarding Students Eligible for SETTW, MTI and/or Golden Apple

- If a student qualifies for SETTW, MTI and/or Golden Apple the student must choose which program they would like to use.
 - o A student cannot receive the benefits of two programs in the same award year.
 - o ISAC will send the student a letter asking them to choose which program they want to accept.
 - These letters include a deadline date to return the form.
- If a student decides to change which program benefit, he/she wants to receive:
 - First confirm that the student has been awarded the other program before cancelling a payment request/claim that may have already been made.
 - For example, make sure that the student was awarded funds for MTI before cancelling a payment request for Golden Apple.
- Program teaching obligations:
 - o SETTW requires two-year teaching commitment.
 - o Golden Apple requires a five-year teaching commitment.
 - o MTI has a one-year teaching commitment for each year that the scholarship is received.
 - These programs will convert to a loan that the student must repay if the teaching commitment is not met.
- Schools can find more information on these programs on ISAC's website in the FAA area, the Administrative Rules, and the User Guides:
 - o <u>isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/index.html</u>
 - isac.org/gap-access/#guide



2024-25 Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- 2024-25 NES application is no longer being accepted.
 - Application period was March 1 through April 30, 2024.
 - Final date was a deadline date, not a priority date.
 - Applicants must re-apply each year, along with submitting a FAFSA or Alternative Application.
 - The application process is not considered complete until the NES Application/Work Agreement/Promissory Note and FAFSA or Alternative Application have been submitted to ISAC on or before April 30, 2024.
- Due to issues with the 2024-25 FAFSA, allowances have been provided for applicants who were not able to submit their FAFSA by April 30.
 - However, the NES Application/Work Agreement/Promissory Note should have still been submitted by April 30 to be considered a timely applicant.
- NES certification will be available soon to complete in GAP Access.
 - Completed for the academic year (rather than by term).
 - Colleges verify recipients' enrollment status as part of the payment request process.
 - All certification records available in the system must be completed, regardless of whether the college certifies a student as eligible or ineligible and regardless of whether the student is currently enrolled.
 - Once a certification record has been saved and submitted, it can no longer be edited by the school, contact School Services if changes are needed.



2024-25 NES Awarding

- Scholarships will first be awarded to renewal applicants who continue to meet all of the program's eligibility requirements.
- An applicant is considered a renewal applicant if, during the previous academic year, they received funds from the program for which they are currently applying.
- If funds remain after all qualified renewal applicants have been awarded, then awards will be made to eligible new applicants according to the degree type being sought.
 - NES Degree Type Chart: <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/awarding.html</u>
- If a recipient completed a certificate, diploma or degree program for which they received scholarship assistance, and they are now pursuing a higher level of education:
 - o they will be considered a new applicant, and
 - their maximum available years of assistance will be based on the maximum for the new degree being sought.
 - For example, a recipient now pursuing a baccalaureate degree after receiving assistance for an associate degree; the number of years of assistance previously received do not count toward the new maximum.



FY25 Funding for IVG & ING Grant programs

- For the first time since FY12, the budget for FY25 includes funding of \$6 million for the ING Grant and IVG programs.
- The funds have been appropriated for ISAC to reimburse public universities for some of the tuition and fees that are waived on behalf of eligible veterans and Illinois National Guard members.
- As in recent years, the budget also included a little more than \$4.2 million for the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) to reimburse Illinois community colleges for the costs associated with the same programs.
- ISAC is currently working on the details and the process of how the funds will be disbursed to schools and will provide more information once it becomes available.



2024-25 Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant
 - Benefit usage data reporting for the Fall term 2024, which starts the 2024-25 award year, is now available and must be submitted on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024, in order to be considered timely.
 - 。 Remember...
 - there are no longer term deadline dates by which applications must be submitted each term
 - applications must be received by ISAC in time for eligibility to be determined
 - the applicant will need to notify the college about their eligibility no later than the last scheduled day of classes for the first-term for which benefits have been requested
- A reminder of additional eligibility for some ING Students.
 - Members of the Illinois National Guard who have served at least 10 years in the Guard may be eligible to receive up to 180 Units (6 years) of eligibility for the ING Grant.



2024-25 Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)
 - Benefit usage data reporting for the Summer and Fall terms 2024, is now available.
 - Benefit usage data reporting for the Summer term, which starts the 2024-25 award year, must be submitted on or before Monday, September 30, 2024, in order to be considered timely.
 - Benefit usage data reporting for the Fall term 2024 must be submitted on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024, in order to be considered timely.
 - Application can be submitted any time during the academic year.
 - Does not need to reapply each year only once to establish eligibility.
 - Applications must be received by ISAC allowing sufficient time to complete processing and for applicant to notify college about their eligibility prior to the last scheduled day of classes in the term for which a grant is requested.



2024-25 Illinois Graduate and Retain our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program

- FY25 budget includes \$2 million for iGROW for award year 2024-25.
- The program provides scholarship assistance to Illinois students pursuing IT and related careers.
- The program was designed to recruit and retain individuals to work in technology jobs that have a high demand for new employees.
- The program gives priority to renewal applicants, students who demonstrate academic excellence, students who demonstrate financial need, and minority students.
- Scholarships pay up to \$7,500 for tuition and fees, and room and board costs for each continuous academic year recipients meet eligibility requirements at Illinois public universities.



2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

- To be eligible:
 - be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen or meet the "undocumented student" criteria of the RISE Act
 - be an Illinois resident
 - have graduated from high school or have received a State of Illinois High School Diploma and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
 - pursue or intend to pursue a qualifying degree;
 - computer information sciences
 - information technology
 - information science
 - computer science
 - computer systems networking and telecommunications
 - computer and information systems security or information assurance, including cybersecurity; or management information systems
 - be enrolled at least a half-time basis, in a course of study necessary to secure a qualifying associate or bachelor's degree
 - o maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by your college



2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

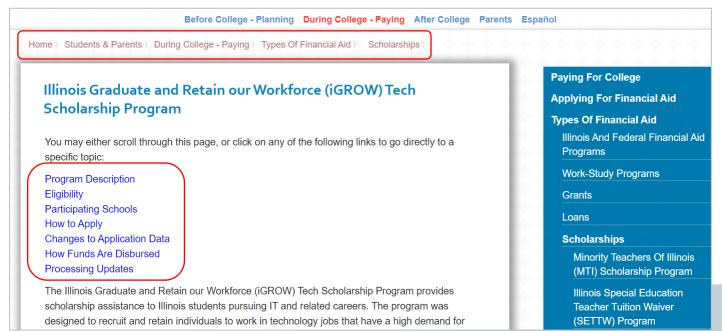
- To be considered for the scholarship, an applicant will need to complete an Application/Work Agreement/Promissory Note.
 - o Must submit a FAFSA or Alternative Application for the same year.
- By receiving this scholarship, the recipient agrees to work in Illinois in a qualifying job for a period of no less than one year, or any portion of a year of scholarship assistance.
- The recipient must begin employment with an employer in Illinois that is directly related to the field of study that qualified them for assistance under this program within one year following completion of the program.
- If the commitment is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan, plus interest, and the entire amount received must be repaid.
- The application is anticipated to be available soon at the ISAC Student Portal.
 - The priority application consideration date will be November 30, 2024.
- ISAC will provide more information as it becomes available.



2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

Resources

- Students-During College section: <u>isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships/iGROW.html</u>
- FAAs section: <u>isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/iGROW/</u>
- iGROW Administrative Rules: <u>isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-ISAC-Rules/2750-iGROW.pdf</u>





Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program (SWSP)

- The 2024-25 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal.
- The priority application consideration date is September 30, 2024.
- Complete applications submitted after that date will be considered only if available funding remains after all timely complete applicants have been awarded.



2024-25 Grant Programs for Dependents of Police/Fire/Correctional Officers (PFC)

- Application is available for students to download and print.
- The priority application consideration date for Full-Year and Fall-Only awards is October 1, 2024.
- The date by which an application must be submitted is based on the first-term for which the applicant wishes to receive funds for the 2024-25 academic year:
 - o October 1, 2024 1st term only or Full Year Consideration
 - March 1, 2025 2nd Semester (2nd/3rdQuarter) Only or 2nd semester (2nd/3rd Quarter) and Summer Term Consideration
 - June 15, 2025 Summer term only Consideration
- Applicants must reapply each year.
- Qualified applicants will be sent a Notice of Eligibility from ISAC.
 - If application is incomplete, a Notice of Incomplete Application will be sent to the applicant.



2024-25 Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship

- The 2024-25 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal.
- The priority application consideration date for Full-Year and Fall-Only awards is **October 1, 2024.**
- The date by which an application must be submitted is based on the first-term for which the applicant wishes to receive funds for the 2024-25 academic year:
 - October 1, 2024 1st Term only or Full Year Consideration
 - March 1, 2025 2nd Semester (2nd/3rdQuarter) Only or 2nd semester (2nd/3rd Quarter) and Summer Term Consideration
 - June 15, 2025 Summer Term only Consideration

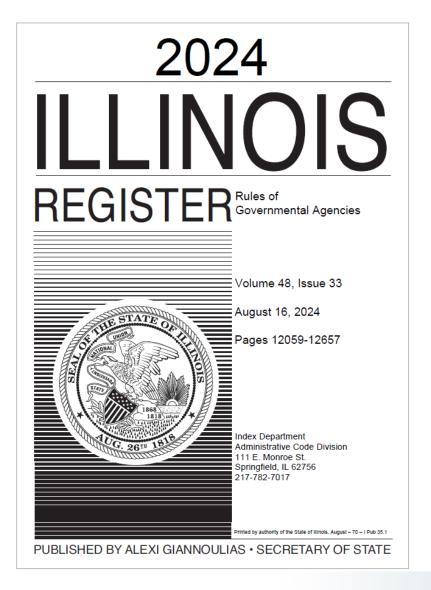


2024-25 Grant Program for Exonerees

- The 2024-25 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal.
- Students may use the 2024-25 application to apply for Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 terms only.
 - The grant is not available for Summer terms.
- Applications are processed in date-received order ("first come, first served").
- Qualified applicants are sent a Notice of Eligibility letter from ISAC.



2024-25 Administrative Rules & Amendments



- 2024-25 Administrative Rules
 & Amendments have been adopted and were published in the *Illinois Register*
- Will be available to view/download on ISAC's website soon



2024-25 Administrative Rules & Amendments

Proposed rule amendments to "Resident of Illinois" definition for 2024-25

Section 2700.20 Definitions

"Resident of Illinois" -

A dependent student is a resident of Illinois if the parent of the dependent applicant, who is required by the instructions to complete the FAFSA or the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, physically resides within the State of Illinois, and Illinois is the parent's true, fixed and permanent home.

An independent student is a resident of Illinois if the applicant physically resides within the State of Illinois (at the time of application) and has so resided for a period of 12 continuous, full months immediately prior to the start of the academic year for which assistance is requested and Illinois is their true, fixed and permanent home.

When an applicant does not qualify as a resident of Illinois under the preceding 2 paragraphs and the applicant is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a foreign missionary, or is the dependent or the spouse of an individual who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a foreign missionary, or is a dependent student required to list an out-of-state parent contributor on the FAFSA form, then the applicant's residency shall be determined in accordance with the following:

...

An applicant who is a dependent student and physically resides in the State of Illinois with a parent but is required to list an out-of-state parent contributor on the FAFSA form may be considered a Resident of Illinois for the purpose of State financial aid programs. See Section 2700.50(e)(3).



2024-25 Administrative Rules & Amendments

Proposed rule amendments to "Resident of Illinois" definition for 2024-25

- Section 2700.50(a)(3) Determining Applicant Eligibility
 - 3) If the institution has information that a dependent student physically resides with a parent within the State of Illinois, but the parent contributor listed on the FAFSA physically resides in another state, the institution shall review the applicant's residency eligibility for ISAC gift assistance programs to determine whether it should be based on the Illinois resident parent.
 - A) The institution will make this determination on a case-by-case basis upon confirming that the dependent student and Illinois parent reside in the State as evidenced by documentation as outlined in subsection (e)(4).
 - B) The institution shall notify ISAC of the determination.
 - C) A student's maximum annual MAP award amount shall be based on the need analysis calculation using the data of the parent who is required to provide financial information on the FAFSA or Alternative Application, according to the instructions provided on the respective applications.



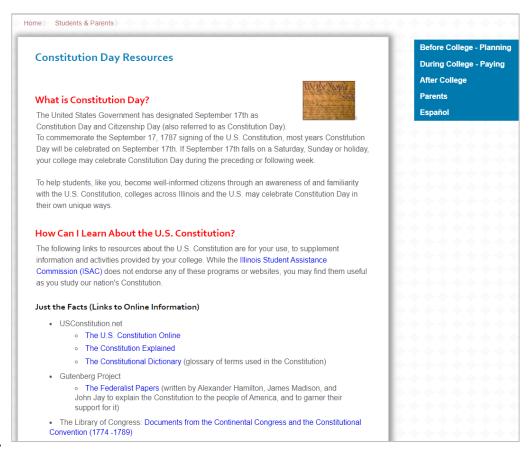
ISAC Program Reviews Extended

- Temporary pause of ISAC programs reviews extended through September 30, 2024 – results of the Department of Education (ED) extending their routine program reviews through September 2024.
 - Following guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education in a July 30, 2024, electronic announcement (GENERAL-24-96), which includes an extension of the previously-announced pause of program reviews, ISAC has also extended (through September 30, 2024) the temporary pause of new routine program reviews and responses, reports or requests for additional documentation for schools currently undergoing a review. Schools are encouraged to continue working with ISAC's Program Review team.
 - July 30, 2024, ED electronic announcement (GENERAL-24-96): <u>fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-07-30/update-batch-corrections-institutions-electronic-data-exchange-flexibilities-and-additional-support-2024-25-fafsa-cycle</u>



Constitution Day - September 17

- Find resources to help develop programs for the annual observance of Constitution Day
- Access to the Constitution Day Resources page for students, via the Constitution and Citizenship Day document located in the e-Library's Job Aids & Reference Materials area
- Required of institutions receiving federal funding, educational programs about the U.S.
 Constitution are to be held on (or around) September 17 every year.

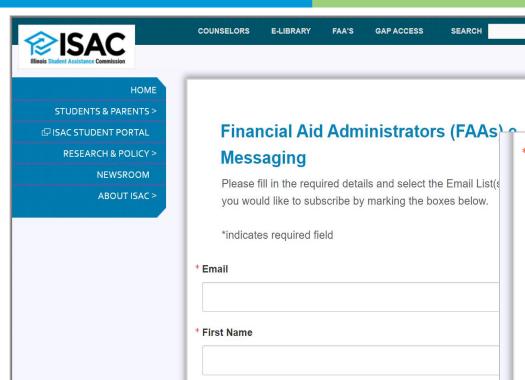


isac.org/students/constitution-day-resources.html

<u>isac.org/e-library/job-aids-and-reference-materials/index.html</u>

isac.org/e-library/documents/job-aids-reference-materials/ConstitutionDay.pdf





Sign-Up for e-Messaging

Email Lists

- Business Officer fiscal updates
- ☐ ECACE Administrators program & processing updates about the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship Program
- FAA ISAC Update monthly newsletter summarizing each month's announcements and updates
- Financial Aid Administrators program & processing updates, rules & regulations, operational announcements
- Financial Aid Directors administrative announcements
- MAP Users operational updates for the Internet application used to process MAP data
- NESP Schools operational announcements for schools participating in the Nursing Education Scholarship Program
- ☐ Public Schools operational announcements for colleges participating
 in the ING Grant and IVG programs

 Subscription groups for specific programs are available



About ISAC
Contact ISAC
Employment
Executive Director
The Commission
FOIA



e-Messaging
Get the latest news & updates from ISAC

800.899.ISAC (4722)



Applications



2025-26 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2026



2025-26 MAP Start-Up Formula

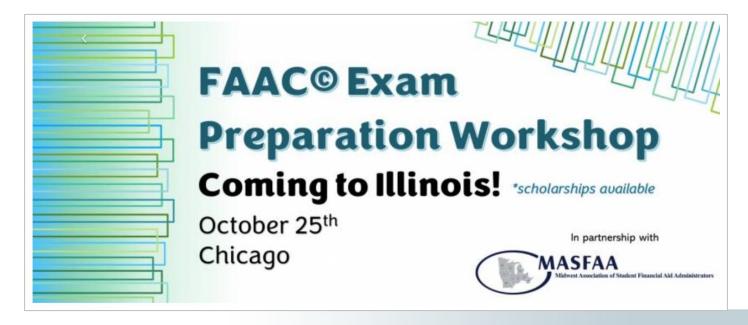
- The 2025-26 MAP Start-Up Formula will be an agenda item at the September 19, 2024, Commission Meeting.
 - Executive Briefing conference call will be on Friday, September 20, 2024, at 11 a.m. to provide information about the Commission Meeting.
 - The day of the briefing, you can gain access by visiting the Partner Training page of the e-Library.
- The Alternative Application for the 2025-26 academic year will coincide with the launch of the 2025-26 FAFSA.
 - 2025-26 FAFSA is expected to be available by December 1, 2024.
 - <u>fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-08-07/2025-26-fafsa-processing-timeline-update</u>





2024 ILASFAA FAAC Workshop

- ILASFAA is excited to announce a professional development opportunity in partnership with the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA)
- Registration Open Limited Seating
- October 25, 2024, at Northeastern University Chicago, IL
- For more information and to register for this event, go to <u>ilasfaa.org/</u>





ISAC's Webinars for FAAs

Monthly Operational Update & Program News

- These webinars will provide operational updates about ISAC programs along with any federal or state updates and announcements
 - Last Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m.
 - ❖ Sept 25
 - ❖ Oct 30
 - Nov 27 at 10 a.m. due to the holiday

Tuesday Training - Policies & Procedures

- These webinars focus on policies and procedures for ISAC programs and processes
 - Second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.
 - Sept 10 A Review of the 2024-25 ISAC Teacher Programs

To participate in these webinars, visit the Partner Training page in the e-Library on the day of the training for the webinar link and presentation materials

isac.org/e-library/partner-training/index.html



ISAC's Student Engagement & Support Services

For inquiries from students, parents, and the general public

Phone: 800-899-ISAC (4722)

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: isac.studentservices@illinois.gov

Spanish-speaking counselors are available

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

Call Center Reps

Anit Chacko

Bertha Esquivel

Ghouse Farooqi

Manju Thomas

Larry Thompson



ISAC's Partner Services Department

- Provides training, program information and support to schools and other ISAC partners
- Partners with ILASFAA and other professional organizations
- Responds to school inquiries, both colleges and high schools

Phone: 866-247-2172

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov

Partner Services Staff

Stephanie Claudio, <u>Stephanie.Claudio@illinois.gov</u>
Kim Eck, <u>Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov</u>
Daniela Rios, <u>Daniela.Rios@illinois.gov</u>
Sherry Schonauer, <u>Sherry.Schonauer@illinois.gov</u>



Questions/Comments



Thank you for attending today!

