ISAC Operational Update and Program News

December 18, 2024

2024-25 Award Year
Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

2024-25 Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- ISAC suspended the announcement of 2024-25 MAP grants for all students whose initial 2024-25 FAFSA or Alternative Application was received on or after **August 21, 2024**

- Fall term claim deadline date was **Friday, December 6, 2024**

- On December 17, ISAC announced that a 4% reduction factor was being applied to the 2024-25 maximum annual award amount, but will only applied to second semester and second/third quarter claims
  - Fall term award amounts will not be reduced

- For semester institutions, this means that the maximum eligible award amount for the term spring term will see an 8% reduction

- For quarter institutions, there will be a 6% reduction in the maximum eligible award amount for both second and third quarters

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Reduced Term 2 Award Amounts
Based on Max Annual Award Amount, Semester School, With Cents

Semester Cents:

Credit hours	Term 1 award	Pre recompute term 2 award	Post recompute term 2 award	Difference
3	$840.00	$840.00	$772.80	$67.20
4	$1,120.00	$1,120.00	$1,030.40	$89.60
5	$1,400.00	$1,400.00	$1,288.00	$112.00
6	$1,680.00	$1,680.00	$1,545.60	$134.40
7	$1,960.00	$1,960.00	$1,803.20	$156.80
8	$2,240.00	$2,240.00	$2,060.80	$179.20
9	$2,520.00	$2,520.00	$2,318.40	$201.60
10	$2,800.00	$2,800.00	$2,576.00	$224.00
11	$3,080.00	$3,080.00	$2,833.60	$246.40
12	$3,360.00	$3,360.00	$3,091.20	$268.80
13	$3,640.00	$3,640.00	$3,348.80	$291.20
14	$3,920.00	$3,920.00	$3,606.40	$313.60
15	$4,200.00	$4,200.00	$3,864.00	$336.00

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Reduced Term 2 Award Amounts
Based on Max Annual Award Amount, Semester School, No Cents

Semester No Cents:

Credit hours	Term 1 award	Pre recompute term 2 award	Post recompute term 2 award	Difference
3	$840	$840	$772	$68
4	$1,120	$1,120	$1,030	$90
5	$1,400	$1,400	$1,288	$112
6	$1,680	$1,680	$1,545	$135
7	$1,960	$1,960	$1,803	$157
8	$2,240	$2,240	$2,060	$180
9	$2,520	$2,520	$2,318	$202
10	$2,800	$2,800	$2,576	$224
11	$3,080	$3,080	$2,833	$247
12	$3,360	$3,360	$3,091	$269
13	$3,640	$3,640	$3,348	$292
14	$3,920	$3,920	$3,606	$314
15	$4,200	$4,200	$3,864	$336

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Reduced Term 2 & 3 Award Amounts
Based on Max Annual Award Amount, Quarter School, No Cents

Quarter No Cents:

Enrollment Hours At .66 School	Enrollment Hours At 3.3 School	MPCH	Term 1 award	Pre recompute term 2 & 3 award	Post recompute term 2 & 3 award	Term 2 & 3 Difference
4-5	1	3	$840	$840	$789	$51
6	1.1 - 1.3	4	$1,120	$1,120	$1,052	$68
7-8	1.4 - 1.6	5	$1,400	$1,400	$1,316	$84
9	1.7 - 1.9	6	$1,680	$1,680	$1,579	$101
10-11	2 - 2.2	7	$1,960	$1,960	$1,842	$118
12	2.3 - 2.5	8	$2,240	$2,240	$2,105	$135
13-14	2.6 - 2.8	9	$2,520	$2,520	$2,368	$152
15	$\geq$ 2.9	10	$2,800	$2,800	$2,632	$168

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Reduced Term 2 & 3 Award Amounts
Based on Max Annual Award Amount, Quarter School, Cents

Quarter Cents (East West only):

Enrollment Hours At .66 School	MPCH	Term 1 award	Pre recompute term 2 & 3 award	Post recompute term 2 & 3 award	Term 2 & 3 Difference
4-5	3	$840.00	$840.00	$789.60	$50.40
6	4	$1,120.00	$1,120.00	$1,052.80	$67.20
7-8	5	$1,400.00	$1,400.00	$1,316.00	$84.00
9	6	$1,680.00	$1,680.00	$1,579.20	$100.80
10-11	7	$1,960.00	$1,960.00	$1,842.40	$117.60
12	8	$2,240.00	$2,240.00	$2,105.60	$134.40
13-14	9	$2,520.00	$2,520.00	$2,368.80	$151.20
15	10	$2,800.00	$2,800.00	$2,632.00	$168.00

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2024-25 MAP – Mid-Year Reduction

- ISAC is working to make the needed updates for institutions in GAP Access

- There will be a period when the MAP Program will be unavailable in GAP as these processes are updating

- It is expected that the colleges will be able to see recalculated award amounts early next week

- At that time, spring semester and second quarter claim processing can begin
  - A second term/quarter MAP claim deadline date has not yet been determined

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MAP Payment Processing Reminders

- Colleges can continue to make adjustments to previously-submitted fall term claims (e.g. to change enrollment hours, adjust amounts, etc).

- Please keep in mind that the most recent claim submitted overlays the last claim and changes the claim date
  - **Initial claims and upward adjustments to previously-submitted timely claims will result in the new claim being considered a late claim now that the fall term claim deadline has passed**

- At this point in time, we do not recommend that schools submit adjustments to change MAP codes if it will result in a claim being considered late and unable to be paid
  - In order to change MAP codes, the original request must first be cancelled and then a new request submitted
  - Any new fall term requests would now be late
  - Downward adjustments can be made, as needed

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Other ISAC Programs

- The priority claim date for the Fall 2024 term is Tuesday, December 31, 2024 for the following ISAC programs:
  - Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program
  - Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program
  - Golden Apple (GA) Scholars
  - Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program (SWSP)
  - Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant
  - Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- To be considered timely, first-term payment requests must be submitted on or before the priority claim date

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Dual-Awarding Reminders

- If a student qualifies for SETTW, MTI and/or Golden Apple in the same award year, the student must choose which program they would like to use.
  - A student cannot receive the benefits of two of these programs in the same award year.
  - 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.
  - The ECACE Scholarship may be used with one of these programs, and ECACE would be last payer

- 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:
  - SETTW requires two-year teaching commitment.
  - Golden Apple requires a five-year teaching commitment.
  - MTI has a one-year teaching commitment for each year that the scholarship is received.

- See ISAC's website for specific program information:
  - isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/index.html
  - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/index.html
  - isac.org/gap-access/#guide

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Ways to View Students Awarded GA, SETTW & MTI

- Click on 🔍 icon

- This will take you to the Student Detail: Eligibility screen.

- Scroll down to view if the student was also awarded GA or SETTW

Dual-Awarding Students with MTI & Golden Apple

- Example of a student for which payment was requested for both the MTI & GA scholarships
- The college must CANCEL one of the scholarships
- This will be an audit finding if not corrected

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2024-25 Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- Scholarships have been awarded and colleges may request fall term payment

- Scholarships were first awarded to renewal applicants who continued to meet all of the program's eligibility requirements
  - An applicant is considered a renewal applicant for the program if they received NES funds during the previous academic program

- After all qualified renewal applicants have been awarded, then awards are made to eligible new applicants according to the degree type being sought.
  - NES Awarding Chart: isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/awarding.html

- 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:
  - 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.

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2024-25 Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- The certificate, diploma or degree being pursued by the student determines the NES maximum award amount and the maximum number of years the award may be received, and award amounts differ by type of college.

2024-25 NES maximum annual award amount is either $9,023 or $18,204

$9,023 Maximum Award	$18,204 Maximum Award
certificate in practical nursing * any school type * one year of assistance	**associate degree in nursing** * two-year private colleges or four-year colleges/universities * two years of assistance
associate degree in nursing * community colleges or nursing schools * two years of assistance	**baccalaureate degree in nursing** * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * four years of assistance
hospital-based diploma in nursing * community colleges * three years of assistance	**graduate degree in nursing** * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * five years of assistance
	graduate degree in nursing to become a nurse educator * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * three years of assistance

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

- FY25 appropriation is $2 million

- The program was designed to recruit and retain individuals to work in technology jobs that have a high demand for new employees

- Scholarships will 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

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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
  - maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by your college

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2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

- The online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal

- The priority application consideration date was November 30, 2024

- To be considered for the scholarship, an applicant will need to complete an Application/Work Agreement/Promissory Note
  - 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

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iGROW Certification Process

IGROW 2024-2025: Certification List: View

Select School and School Code

[_____ ▼] [Go]

Home   Student   **Certification**

[List]   Filter

Entries displayed [100 ▼]

#	SSN	Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth	School Code	Applicant Category	Eligible	Transfer
1								
2								

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries

[View Report]

Colleges have been asked to complete a certification process (similar to what is done for the MTI program) by December 15

Once certification is complete, awarding and payment can take place.

Certification Details

Eligible: [▼]

Academic Level: [---Select Academic Level--- ▼]

Program of Study: [---Select Program of Study--- ▼]

Anticipated Graduation Date (Month and Year, must be future): [_____]

SAI from most recent valid ISIR: [_____]

Student's GPA: [_____]

Ineligible Reason: [---Select Ineligible Reason--- ▼]

[Save/Submit] [Close]

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iGROW Certification Process

Certification Details

Student Name

Eligible: [dropdown]

Academic Level: ---Select Academic Level---

Program of Study: ---Select Program of Study---

Anticipated Graduation Date (Month and Year, must be future): [field]

SAI from most recent valid ISIR: [field]

Student's GPA: [field]

Ineligible Reason: ---Select Ineligible Reason---

Save/Submit   Close

---Select Academic Level---
Freshman
Sophomore
Junior
Senior

---Select Program of Study---
Computer Information Sciences
Information Technology
Information Science
Computer Science
Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications
CIS Security or Information Assurance
Management IS

---Select Ineligible Reason---
Not a US citizen/eligible non-citizen student
Non-Resident
Not an IL HS grad/recipient of IL HS diploma
GPA less than 2.50
Graduate student
No qualifying degree
Not at qualifying institution
Not making satisfactory academic progress
No remaining unmet cost
Not accepting iGROW Tech Scholarship
Defaulted student loan
Not enrolled
Enrolled less than half-time

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Enrollment Status Verification Process

- Each year, colleges are required to verify the enrollment statuses for recipients in programs with teaching requirements and practice agreements
  - This is done for enrollment in the previous academic year

- The Enrollment Status Verification process to confirm 2023-24 enrollment for recipients of the Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program started the week of November 4
  - **Colleges are asked to complete the verification by December 31**
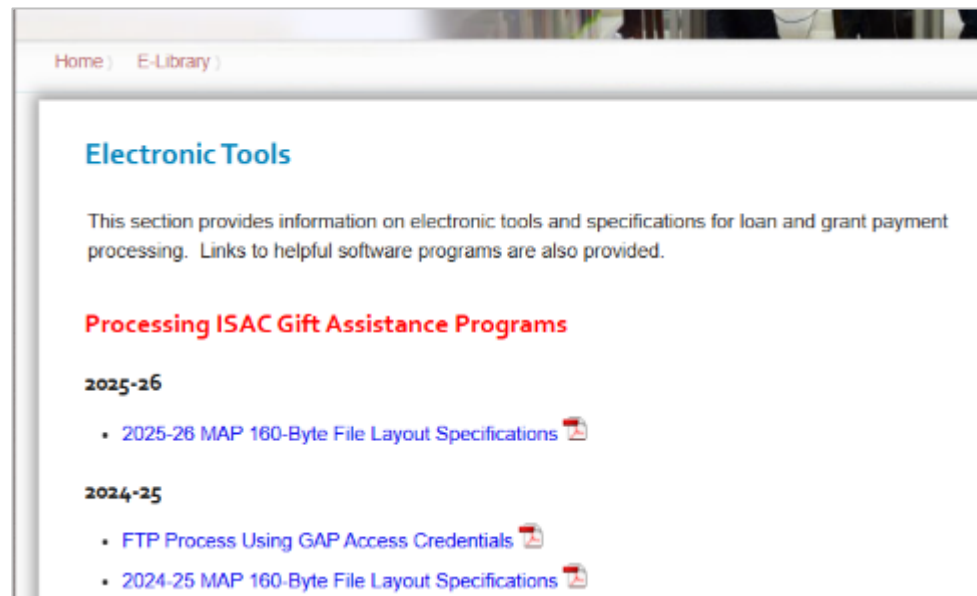
- This process is completed in the GAP Access system

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2025-26 Award Year
Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

2025-26 MAP Start-Up Formula

- The 2025-26 MAP Start-Up Formula was approved at the September 19, 2024, Commission Meeting
  - FY26 Start-up formula remains the same as FY25 Recompute formula:
    - 2021-22 reported tuition and fees
    - the 2021-22 Pell Grant Payment Schedule
    - a $5,200 living allowance
    - an $8,400 maximum award
  - Commission Meeting Agenda Book: isac.org/about-isac/commissioners/2024-agenda-books/agenda-book-09-19-24.html

2025-26 MAP Start-Up

- The Alternative Application for the 2025-26 academic year was launched on December 6

- MAP eligibility information will be available to schools in the MAP system in early December

- There have been no changes made to the 2025-26 MAP 160-byte file layout for 2025-26
  - It can be found on the Electronic Tools page in the E-Library
    - https://www.isac.org/e-library/electronic-tools.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

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ISAC's Partner Services Department

- Provides training, program information, policy guidance 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
Kim Eck, Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov
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Questions/Comments

Thank you for attending today!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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