

## Q & A – Monthly Webinar April 2023

**Q. For the Nursing Education Scholarship Program (NESP), will the next group of payments be sent EFT like other ISAC programs in GAP Access?**

- A. Disbursement of second term awards will occur in the same way as first term, with funding coming from the State Comptroller's office.
- Stipends will be sent directly to students.
  - Scholarship funds will be sent to the schools.
    - Checks for scholarship funds will continue to be co-payable to the school and the recipient, stipend payments are remitted directly to recipients.

**Q. Is there a reason why changes can't be made in GAP Access by colleges?**

- A. The NESP system in GAP Access does not allow colleges to make updates/changes after submitting the certification data for a student due to the short time frame that we had to implement the program to ISAC from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) this academic year.

**Q. For the Early Childhood Access Consortium For Equity (ECACE) Scholarship program, if a student is certified as not enrolled for Fall 2022, but then enrolled and payment requested for Spring 2023 they have received a letter indicating they are ineligible for the full academic year. Will that be changed for 2023-24?**

- A. Yes, there has been a timing issue with sending the letters to students and ISAC is trying to correct that moving forward. We do understand it is causing confusion and we apologize for any inconvenience. ISAC is making adjustments to sending letters a little differently for next academic year. We appreciate your patience during this process.

**Q. For the Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program (SWSP), are the schools expected to retain a copy of proof of license for audit purposes?**

- A. Yes, best practice would be to retain a copy of proof of license in the student's file to confirm that the student meets the program requirements.

Acceptable documentation would include printed information or a screen shot from the Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation License Lookup resource, which can be found at: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx>.

When students complete the SWSP application, they are asked if they have a license and to indicate the type, and their signature on the application certifies that they have provided complete and accurate information, however, they are not asked to upload or provide a copy of the license though the application process to ISAC. In many cases, having the license is a requirement to be enrolled in an eligible program and your school may already have that documentation on file, in which case you may not need to collect additional documentation. However, since that may not always be the case due to timing issues, etc., retaining a copy of proof license in the students would be a best practice for audit purposes. The purpose of the certification process is for colleges to confirm that the student is enrolled and meeting all eligibility requirements, which includes having a valid license.

**Q. Will documentation/screen shot from IL Dept of Financial & Professional Regulation License Lookup suffice for the SWSP proof of license?**

- A. Yes, documentation or a screen shot from the Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation License Lookup resource, which can be found at: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx>, would be considered acceptable documentation.

**Q. Is student health insurance considered a mandatory fee (when the student hasn't submitted documentation to opt out of it) for the Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program (SWSP)?**

- A. Yes, student health insurance costs could be considered a mandatory fee for SWSP.

For the purposes of ISAC programs, mandatory fees are defined as:

- the charges assessed by an institution that are required to deliver educational services to students for each term, regardless if the student is attending on-campus or through distance education. Application, graduation, laboratory, breakage, add/drop fees, and program administrative fees for out-of-state or foreign study are specifically excluded.

Examples of mandatory fees include the following (and institutions may have additional fees that are considered mandatory that are not in this list of examples):

- Activity – school activities, fitness centers, recreation centers, gymnasiums
- Bonds
- Facility Operations – school arena, sports, concerts, library, student union, campus improvement, taxes, general facilities maintenance
- Grants – grant-in-aid, talent grants
- Health – health insurance costs, health clinics and services, health maintenance programs, doctor and nurse visits, pharmacy services
- Instructional Support – book store IDs, copying costs, instructional materials, publications, textbook rentals, text fees
- Registration
- Student Services – career services, placement office services, student senate, student attorney, leadership events, other general fees
- Technology – academic computing, computer technology, Internet access, media resources, electronic music centers
- Transportation – parking, shuttle buses, transit
- Distance Education – fees associated with online learning