

ISAC Operational Update and Program News

September 25, 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 were sent to Financial Aid Directors in early August
- Funds are due to ISAC by **Monday, September 30, 2024**
- All refund checks should be made payable to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and should be accompanied by a Gift Assistance Programs Check Return Form
 - Please be sure to identify the specific term(s) and program(s) for refunds submitted
- Refund checks and the Check Return Form should be submitted to:
 - Finance & Accounting Division - J10
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
1755 Lake Cook Rd
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209
- Questions may be directed to School Services at 866-247-2172 or isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov

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



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: 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.

DATE SENT TO ISAC	
SCHOOL NAME	
MAP CODE /ED CODE/IVG CODE	
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 of Year: Per ISAC's letter indicating total amount owed.
- 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 the Final Program Review Report to the appropriate internal department.
- Other Refund: Provide Explanation

ISAC #3247 06/19 (ON3247 Web 6/19)

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Refunds and Unpaid Claims

Upon receipt of disbursements, schools must verify each recipient's enrollment status for the term for which payment was made. When it 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 Form](#) must also be completed and submitted along with the payment.

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 must be written, and filing a claim does not guarantee payment. As of July 1, 2000, there is a two-year time limit to file Court of Claims.

Returning Program Funds to ISAC

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 provides the following:

- information about program funds being returned;
- 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 school for awards that are cancelled or reduced during the academic year.

The Gift Assistance Refund Check Form, along with the check(s) made payable to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, should be sent to:

Finance & Accounting division - J10
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
1755 Lake Cook Road
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209

MAP Electronic Processing

MAP Advising Data Collection

MPCH Adjustments (COVID: Spring 2020)

NON-MAP Programs Adjustments (COVID: Spring 2020)

ING Grant Electronic Processing

IVG Electronic Processing

ECACE Electronic Processing

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

Refunds And Unpaid Claims

Returning Program Funds To ISAC

Court Of Claims

Payment Offset And Reconciliation

2024-25 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

2024-25 Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- Payment processing for the Fall term began on August 28
 - Schools may submit payment requests through the MAP system in GAP Access or via the File Transfer Protocol process
- The Fall term claim deadline date is **Friday, December 6, 2024**
 - See the August 28 e-Message for more details
 - isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0828.html
- 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**
 - 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
 - See the August 15 e-Message for more information
 - isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2024-0815.html

2024-25 MAP Payment Processing

What's New for 2024-25 Payment Processing?

- A Dependent Residency Override function has been added to the MAP payment request process
 - This may be used when a school determines 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 rule 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

2024-25 MAP Payment Processing: Dependent Residency Override

Term 1

MAP Code 064

Request

Enrollment Hours

Short-Term Certificate Program

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

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 or Alt App/

2024-25 MAP 160 Byte File Layout Specifications

F) The following 160 byte record layout will be used for transmitting data between schools and ISAC.

Position	Start	End	Data Element	Type (Length)	School to ISAC		ISAC to School	
					Payment or Cancellation Request	Elig File	MAP	Payment Results
					MAP Only	MAP	MAP	
160 Byte Format								
1	3	1	Applicable MAP School Code	9(03)	X	X	X	
4	4	2	Record Type	X(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)	X(01)	X		X	
9	14	6	Title IV School Code	X(06)	X	X	X	
15	50	7	Person UUID	X(36)	X	X	X	
51	53	8	Filler	X(03)				
54	54	9	User Defined	X(01)				
55	61	10	Requested Award Amount for Term	9(05)V99	X		X	
62	62	11	ING Certified	X(01)				
63	64	12	Transaction Number	9(02)	X		X	
65	65	13	Continuing Student	X(01)		X	X	
66	66	14	Paid Previous Year	X(01)		X	X	
67	67	15	Dependent Residency Override	X(01)	Opt*			
68	68	16	Payment Result Code	X(01)			X	

Because the student record has a Disqualify code of 1, the school will also need to check the checkboxes for Include Ineligible and Disqualify when submitting the payment request.

Field #15 may be used to provide a Dependent Residency Override when submitting payment claims via FTP. The field should be populated with a Y to provide the override as part of the payment request process.

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term 1

User Defined

Include Ineligible

MAP Paid Credit Hours >= 135


Default

Late

MAP Suspend

Disqualify

2024-25 MAP Payment Processing: Certificate Programs

- To request MAP payment for a student in an eligible certificate program, report the number of credit-based hours in which the student is enrolled for the term.
 - If the student is enrolled in additional coursework, the number of enrollment hours reported should be the combination of the certificate program hours and other coursework the student may be enrolled in.
- When submitting a MAP payment request for a student in a certificate program, the Short-Term Certificate Program indicator should be checked in the MAP system.
 - The certificate box should be checked even if the hours are mixed (a combination of traditional and certificate program courses).
 - Help text is provided to clarify when the indicator should be checked. 
- For payment requests submitted via File Transfer Protocol, a “Y” indicator should be provided in Field #24 in the FTP file, per the file specifications.

Check this box if some or all of the term MAP award will be used for a credit-based Occupational or Career and Technical Certificate program at a public institution, and it is a program that is not currently eligible for federal Title IV financial aid.

2024-25 MAP Payment Processing: Certificate Programs

- If requesting payment in the MAP system in GAP Access, the indicator can be provided on the:
 - Student Payment Detail screen – for individual reporting
 - Input Enrollment screen – for batch reporting, will apply to all students entered on the screen
 - Payment Generation screen – for batch processing; will apply to all students selected (and saved) on the Student Payment List

Term	Term 1	Term 2
MAP Code	064	064
Request	Payment	
Enrollment Hours		
Short-Term Certificate Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Request Amount Override		\$3,000.00
Current Eligible Amount		\$3,000.00
Original Eligible Amount		\$3,000.00
User Defined		
NSI DS Override		<input type="checkbox"/>
Transaction #		03
Activity Date		
Status		
Results		
Expanded Reject Reason		
Invoice #		
Transaction #		
MAP Code	064	064
Results		

Check this box if some or all of the term MAP award will be used for a credit-based Occupational or Career and Technical Certificate program at a public institution, and it is a program that is not currently eligible for federal Title IV financial aid.

Save Changes

Home Student Payment Budget Reports File Extractions

List Filter Sort Columns Input Student Enrollment Hours Payment Generation Submit Payment Request

Term	MAP Code	Request	Short-Term Certificate Program	User Defined
1	064	Payment	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Check this box if some or all of the term MAP award will be used for a credit-based Occupational or Career and Technical Certificate program at a public institution, and it is a program that is not currently eligible for federal Title IV financial aid.

Reset Save

Home Student Payment Budget Reports File Extractions

List Filter Sort Columns Input Student Enrollment Hours Payment Generation Submit Payment Request

Term: 1

MAP Code: 064

Request: Payment

Enrollment Hours:

Short-Term Certificate Program:

User Defined:

MAP Payment Processing Reminders

- If a payment request has been submitted for a term and the MAP code needs to be corrected or updated:
 - First, cancel the original request (just as you would do a cancellation for other reasons, such as a withdrawal)
 - Once the cancellation has processed, submit a new request using the alternate budget code
- This can be done in GAP Access in the MAP system for individual adjustments to a student's record or it may be done using FTP
 - In either case, this would be a two-step process of cancelling the request and letting it process, and then submitting a new request after the cancellation has processed.
- Keep in mind claim deadline dates when making this kind of adjustment to ensure plenty of time to cancel and then submit a new claim

MAP Payment Processing Reminders

- MAP payment requests are expected to be submitted on correct 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
 - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/

2024-25 MAP Resources

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

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Program News

(last updated September 23, 2024)

- [2025-26 Start-up Formula](#)
- [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](#)

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](#)

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[Award Announcements](#)

[Formula](#)

[MAP Paid Credit Hours](#)

[Special Enrollment Circumstances](#)

[Budget Reporting](#)

2024-25 ECACE Scholarship Program

Program Overview

- The program is intended for those who are currently working or have worked in early childhood education and are seeking additional credentials and/or a degree
- Must be attending a public or non-profit private 2- or 4-year Gateways-entitled and Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity member institution as an undergraduate level student
- The scholarship may be used for any cost of attendance component, such as tuition, fees, room and board charges or commuter allowances
- Intended to be last payer, after other financial aid has been provided
- Recipients are expected to continue or return to teaching or direct services in the early childhood care and education field in Illinois after completion of their program of study
- Applicants are prioritized for awarding based on their Student Aid Index (SAI), from lowest to highest

ECACE Scholarship Program

What's New for 2024-25?

- The program is now funded by the State of Illinois rather than with federal funding
- Appropriation is \$5 million for Fiscal Year 2025 (2024-25 award year)
- The maximum annual award amount a student may receive is \$7,500
- Graduate students are not eligible for the scholarship
- ECACE will only be available for the regular school year terms (fall, winter and spring); it will not be available for the summer term
- 2024-25 application is no longer available

2024-25 ECACE

What's Currently Happening? Student Awards

- Colleges have completed the certification process for timely renewal applicants and awarding was done on Tuesday, September 24
- Awarding prioritization was based on:
 - An applicant's renewal status
 - Renewal status means that the student was paid ECACE Scholarship benefits in the previous 2023-24 award year
 - The application receipt date
 - The applicant's Student Aid Index (SAI)
 - Awarding to those with the lowest (-1500) SAIs
- All 2024-25 ECACE Scholarships were awarded to timely renewal applicants with an SAI of -1500
 - Funding was not sufficient to award to all applicants who meet this criteria
- Colleges are now able to submit payment requests to ISAC on behalf of students who have been awarded a scholarship

2024-25 ECACE

What's Currently Happening? Notifications and Communication

- Students are being sent notifications from ISAC regarding their award
 - Emails are being sent first, followed by letters via US Mail
 - A Notice of Insufficient Funding will be sent to eligible students unable to receive an award due to funding limitations
- An e-message with details about awarding and payment processing has been sent to financial aid administrators at the colleges
 - In addition, ISAC has sent a letter to college presidents, chancellors, and chief student service officers encouraging institutions to exercise flexibility to protect those students who may not have received an ECACE scholarship from academic or financial penalties
 - A sample of the letter is available via the ECACE e-message that was sent to the colleges

2024-25 ECACE Payment Process

- The maximum award amount that may be claimed during the academic year is populated in the "Max Annual Award Amount" field of the ECACE system
- The 2024-25 ECACE Scholarship maximum annual award is \$7,500
- There are no term award amount limits
 - Colleges must determine the term award amount(s) based on other financial aid the student is receiving
- ECACE Scholarship is last payer, and can be used for any cost of attendance component
- Schools need to indicate if a student is not eligible for payment on a per-term basis

2024-25 ECACE Payment Process

- Submitting claims is a two-step process, which involves *generating* the request and then *submitting* the request
- By submitting a payment request to ISAC, a college is confirming that the student is enrolled and continues to meet all eligibility criteria
- Payment results are available in the ECACE system each morning
- A Payment Result Summary and Invoice Detail Report can be viewed or printed by selecting the Report tab in the ECACE system the day after a payment request has been processed
- The disbursement of funds is processed by the State Comptroller's Office

2024-25 ECACE Student Payment: View Screen

- The **Student Payment List: View** is accessed by selecting the **Payment** tab
- The following functions are available on the **Student Payment List: View** screen: **View, Filter, Sort, Columns, Payment Request Entry, and Submit Payment Requests**

ECACE 2024-2025: Student Payment List: View

Select School and School Code:

[Home](#) [Application](#) [Student](#) [Certification](#) **[Payment](#)** [Reports](#)

List [Filter](#) [Sort](#) [Columns](#) [Payment Request Entry](#) [Submit Payment Requests](#)

Entries displayed:

#	Sel	Req Sel	Term Number	Current SSN	Last Name	First Name	Annual Award Amount	School Code	Request Code	Enrollment Status	Academic Level	Ineligible Reason	Requested Amount	Amount Paid	Adjust Amount
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	XXX-XX-			7500.00								
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	XXX-XX-			7500.00								
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	XXX-XX-			7500.00								

2024-25 ECACE Student Detail: Payments Screen

This screen is accessed by clicking on the **dollar sign icon** on the **Student Payment List: View** screen or by selecting the **Payment** tab from the **Student List Eligibility: View** screen

ECACE 2024-2025: Student Detail: Payments

Home Application Student Certification Payment Reports

List Eligibility **Payment**

Current SSN
 Go

Annual Award Amount
7500.00

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring
School Code		
Request	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Enrollment Status	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Academic Level	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Program/Degree Pathway	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ineligible Reason	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Requested Amount	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

Select:

- **Payment** – to request a payment
- **Cancel** – to cancel a previously requested award
- **Ineligible** – to be completed for students who are ineligible
- **Delete** – to remove payment request before submitting

- **Enrollment Status** (Full time, Half time, at least 3 credit hrs)
- **Academic Level** (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior)
- **Program/Degree Pathway**
- **Ineligible Reason**
- **Requested Amount** (enter dollar amount)

Associate of Applied Science

Associate Transfer Degree

Bachelor's Degree

Certificate

Not enrolled this term

Not a US citizen/eligible non-citizen

Not a HS grad/no GED

Defaulted student loan

Not pursuing an early childhood education major

Not making satisfactory academic progress

Enrolled less than 3 credit hours

Student is not accepting ECACE Scholarship

No remaining unmet cost

2024-25 ECACE Ineligible Reasons

- The ECACE system *will* de-obligate/remove a student's full award if one of the following Ineligible reasons is selected during payment processing:
 - Not a US citizen/eligible non-citizen
 - Not a HS grad/no GED
 - Student is not accepting ECACE Scholarship
- The system *will not* remove the award if any of the following Ineligible reasons is selected during payment processing:
 - Defaulted student loan
 - Not making satisfactory academic progress
 - No remaining unmet cost
 - Enrolled less than 3 credit hours
 - Not pursuing an early childhood education major
 - Not enrolled this term

2024-25 ECACE Submit Payment Requests Screen

- The **Submit Payment Requests** screen allows you to submit payment requests to ISAC for processing
- The payment request records will be submitted based on the **Term** selected
- After payment requests have been submitted by clicking on the **Submit** button, a message will be displayed indicating how many payment requests were submitted
- ECACE User Guide - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide-Aug2024.pdf

ECACE 2024-2025: Submit Payment Requests

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports

List Filter Sort Columns Payment Request Entry **Submit Payment Requests**

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term 1-Fall

Submit Reset

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

- Awarding has begun and schools may submit Fall term (first-term) payment requests (claims) through the MTI system in GAP Access
- Award notifications were sent to eligible students by ISAC
- To be considered timely, first-term payment requests must be submitted **on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024**
- Colleges are encouraged to continue certifying eligibility on a daily basis throughout the year, to ensure that your students will be included in all future rounds of awarding that may take place
- All certification records available in the MTI system should be completed, regardless of whether the college certifies a student as eligible or ineligible and regardless of whether the student is currently enrolled

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

- Online application remains available.
 - Priority consideration date was March 31, 2024 to be considered Timely
- Each institution that participates in the MTI Scholarship Program must:
 - Host an annual information session about the program for teacher candidates of color
 - In an effort to facilitate on-time completion of each student's educator preparation program, require that all program recipients enrolled at the institution meet with an academic advisor at least once per academic level.

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
 - Colleges are asked to certify each student's eligibility within 60 days of the date on which the e-mail is received
 - This allows ISAC to award unused waivers to another student as soon as possible
 - If subsequent 2024-25 SETTW awards are announced, ISAC will send similar e-mail messages to impacted institutions


2024-25 Golden Apple (GA) Scholars

- Fall term (first-term) payment requests are now being accepted online through the Golden Apple system in GAP Access
- To be considered timely, first-term payment requests must be submitted **on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024**
- 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
 - 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

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

- 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

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

Applicant Category	Timely N/A	Ethnicity	Asian American
Application Withdrawn Date	---	Residence	Y
Certification Date	07/18/2022	Citizenship	U.S. Citizen
Last Update	02/14/2023	Alias ID	---
Total Units	0	Awarded GA	Y
Bilingual Application	---	Awarded SETTW	---
Bilingual educator preparation program	---		

MTI Student Eligibility List: Sort

Home **Student** Certification Payment Reports File Extraction Enrollment Status Verification

List Filter **Sort** Columns

Unselected

- Applicant Category
- Application Complete
- Award Amount
- Award Date
- Awarded GA
- Awarded SETTW
- Certified Date
- DOB
- Default
- Male

Selected

- Last Name
- First Name

Selected checkboxes will be sorted descending. Unchecked checkboxes will be sorted ascending.

Administration School Programs

MTI Student List Eligibility: View

Select School and School Code

Go

Home **Student** Certification Payment Reports File Extraction Enrollment Status Verification

Filter **Sort** Columns

Records displayed: 100

DOB	Male	Default	Units	School Code	Application Complete	Applicant Category	Certified Eligible	Certified Date	Academic Level	Award Amount	Award Date	Awarded GA	Awarded SETTW	Bilingual Certification	ETC
	Yes	N	0			Incomplete						Y			
	Yes	N	0		05/17/2022	Untimely New	Y	07/19/2022	Freshman	0	09/28/2022				0
	No	N	0		05/17/2022	Untimely New	Y	07/19/2022	Junior	0	01/19/2023				0
	No	N	0		03/07/2022	Timely New	Y	07/19/2022	Freshman	0	01/19/2023	Y			39224
	No	N	0		05/19/2022	Ineligible						Y			
	No	N	0			Incomplete						Y			

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries

1

The MTI Student List Eligibility: View screen shows whether a student is also awarded GA or SETTW

- Scroll all the way over using the scroll bar at bottom of screen

Using the "Sort" tab, you can create a list of students who have been awarded MTI, sorted by Award Date

You can also create a list of students who have been awarded GA or SETTW

After selecting your Sort options, click on the "List" tab to view the sorted list of students

Dual-Awarding Students with MTI & Golden Apple

MTI Student Detail: Payments

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports File Extraction Enrollment Status Verification

List Eligibility **Payment**

Current SSN **Go**

Annual Award Amount 7500.00

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring
School Code		
Request	Paymer	Paymer
Enrollment Status	Full tm	Full tm
Ineligible Reason		
Requested Amount	\$ 3750.00	\$ 3750.00
Award Amount	3750.00	3750.00
Activity Date	10/12/2022	01/09/2023
Status	P	P
Result code	*	*
Expanded Result		
Invoice #		
School Code		
Result code	*	*
Expanded Result		
Amount Paid	3750.00	3750.00
Adjusted Amount	3750.00	3750.00
Result Date	10/12/2022	01/09/2023

GA Student Detail: Payment

Home Student Certification File Upload **Payment** Reports

List Eligibility **Payment**

Annual Award Amount 0.00

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring
School Code		
Request	Paymer	
Academic Level	Freshm	
Enrollment Status	Full tm	
Ineligible Reason		
Requested Amount	\$ 1250.00	\$
Award Amount	1250.00	
Activity Date	09/19/2022	
Status	P	
Result code	*	
Expanded Result		
Invoice #		
School Code		
Result code	*	
Expanded Result		
Amount Paid	1250.00	
Adjusted Amount	1250.00	
Result Date	09/19/2022	

- 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

2024-25 Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- The NES certification process will be available in the NES system in GAP Access the week of September 30
 - Certification must take place prior to awarding and is completed for the academic year (rather than by term)
 - All certification records must be completed, regardless of whether the college certifies a student as eligible or ineligible
 - As part of certification, colleges must provide:
 - Program of Study
 - Anticipated Graduation Date
 - Student Aid Index (SAI)
 - Information regarding current credentials (is student pursuing a higher degree)
 - Ineligible reason, if applicable
 - Certification data is needed for awarding prioritization when funding isn't sufficient for all applicants
 - 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
- NES User Guide
 - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/NESUserGuide.pdf

NES Certification Details Screen

Certification Details

Student Name

Eligible:

Program of Study:

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

SAI from most recent valid ISIR transaction:

Is the student already credentialed in nursing and pursuing a higher degree:

Ineligible Reason:

---Select Program of Study---

- Select Program of Study---
- Certificate in Practical Nursing
- Associate Degree in Nursing
- Hospital-based Diploma in Nursing
- Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing
- Graduate Degree in Nursing
- Graduate Degree in Nursing (become Nurse Educator)

---Select Ineligible Reason---

- Select Ineligible Reason---
- Not making satisfactory academic progress
- No longer enrolled in a nursing program of study
- GPA not at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- GPA at program start not at least 3.0 on 4.0 scale
- Withdrawal prior to end of term
- Not enrolled at least one-third of full-time hours
- Not an Illinois resident
- Defaulted student loan
- Student is not accepting NES for this term
- Not US citizen/eligible non-citizen
- Not a HS Grad/no GED
- Select Ineligible Reason---

Is the student already credentialed in nursing and pursuing a higher degree:

Ineligible Reason:

---Select Pursuing a higher degree---

- Select Pursuing a higher degree---
- Yes
- No

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 for the program if they received NES funds during the previous academic program
- 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 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.

2024-25 NES Awarding

- 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

<i>\$9,023 Maximum Award</i>	<i>\$18,204 Maximum Award</i>
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

FY25 Funding for IVG & ING Grant programs

- ISAC's FY25 state appropriation includes funding of \$6 million to reimburse public universities for tuition and fees that are waived on behalf of students receiving Illinois Veteran Grants and Illinois National Guard Grants.
- The state's FY25 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 IVG and ING Grant programs.
- ISAC is currently working on the details for 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 must be submitted **on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024** to be considered timely.
- Reminders:
 - Students must re-apply each year
 - 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 the student wants to receive benefits
 - 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 must be submitted **on or before Monday, September 30, 2024** to be considered timely
 - Benefit usage data reporting for the Fall term 2024 must be submitted **on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024** to be considered timely
 - Application can be submitted any time during the academic year.
 - Students do 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
- 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 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

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

2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

- The online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal
- The priority application consideration date is **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

2024-25 iGROW Tech Scholarship Program

Resources

- Students-During College section:
 - isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships/iGROW.html
- FAAs section:
 - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/iGROW/
- iGROW Administrative Rules:
 - isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-ISAC-Rules/2750-iGROW.pdf
 - isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2024-25-ISAC-Rules/2024-25-Proposed-April-2024.pdf

The screenshot shows the ISAC website page for the iGROW Tech Scholarship Program. The page has a navigation bar at the top with links for 'Before College - Planning', 'During College - Paying', 'After College', 'Parents', and 'Español'. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Students & Parents > During College - Paying > Types Of Financial Aid > Scholarships'. The main content area features the title 'Illinois Graduate and Retain our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program' and a paragraph stating: 'You may either scroll through this page, or click on any of the following links to go directly to a specific topic:'. A list of links is provided, including 'Program Description', 'Eligibility', 'Participating Schools', 'How to Apply', 'Changes to Application Data', 'How Funds Are Disbursed', and 'Processing Updates'. A sidebar on the right contains a menu with categories: 'Paying For College', 'Applying For Financial Aid', 'Types Of Financial Aid', 'Scholarships', and 'Minority Teachers Of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program'.

2024-25 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
 - Applicants must reapply each year
- The application deadline date for full-year consideration is **October 1, 2024**
- Other application deadline dates for partial-year consideration are:
 - **March 1, 2025** – 2nd Semester (2nd/3rdQuarter) and Summer Term consideration
 - **June 15, 2025** – Summer term only consideration
- 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
- A Certification of Enrollment for Payment roster will be sent to schools soon after the Fall term application deadline date

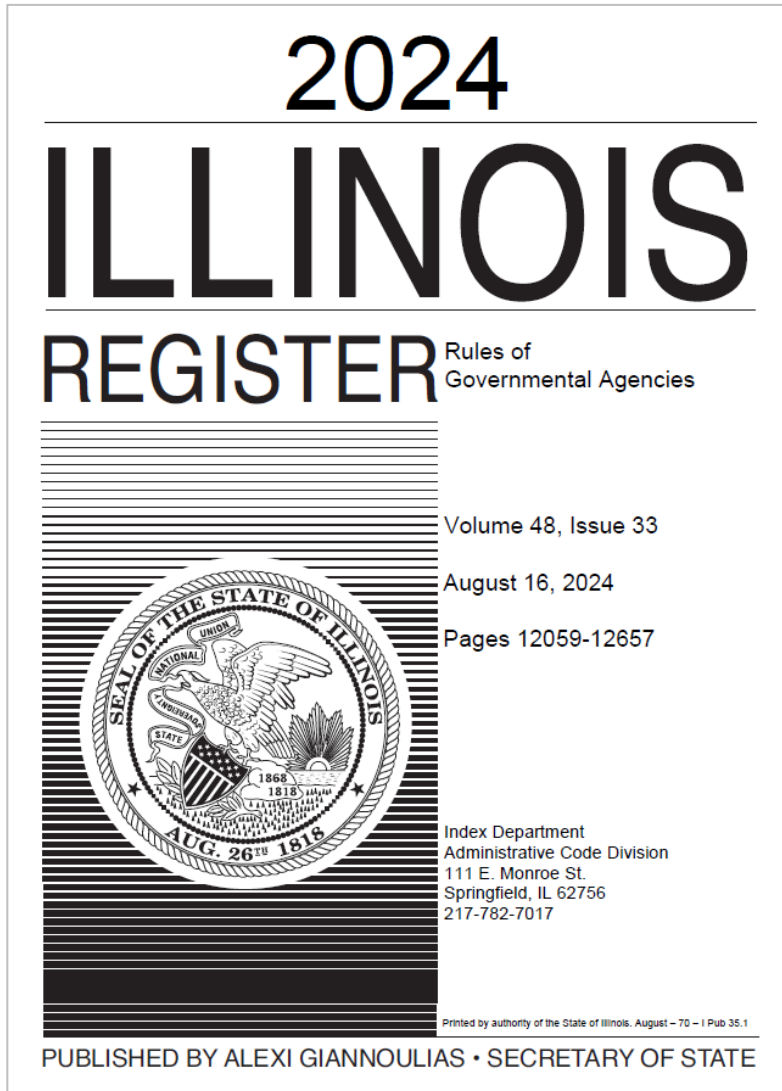
2024-25 Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship

- The online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal
- The application deadline date for full-year consideration is **October 1, 2024**
- Other application deadline dates for partial-year consideration are:
 - **March 1, 2025** – 2nd Semester (2nd/3rdQuarter) and Summer Term consideration
 - **June 15, 2025** – Summer term only consideration
- A Certification of Enrollment for Payment roster will be sent to schools soon after the Fall term application deadline date

2024-25 Grant Program for Exonerees

- The 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 Rule Amendments

Rule amendment 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 Rule Amendments

Rule amendment 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.

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- 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

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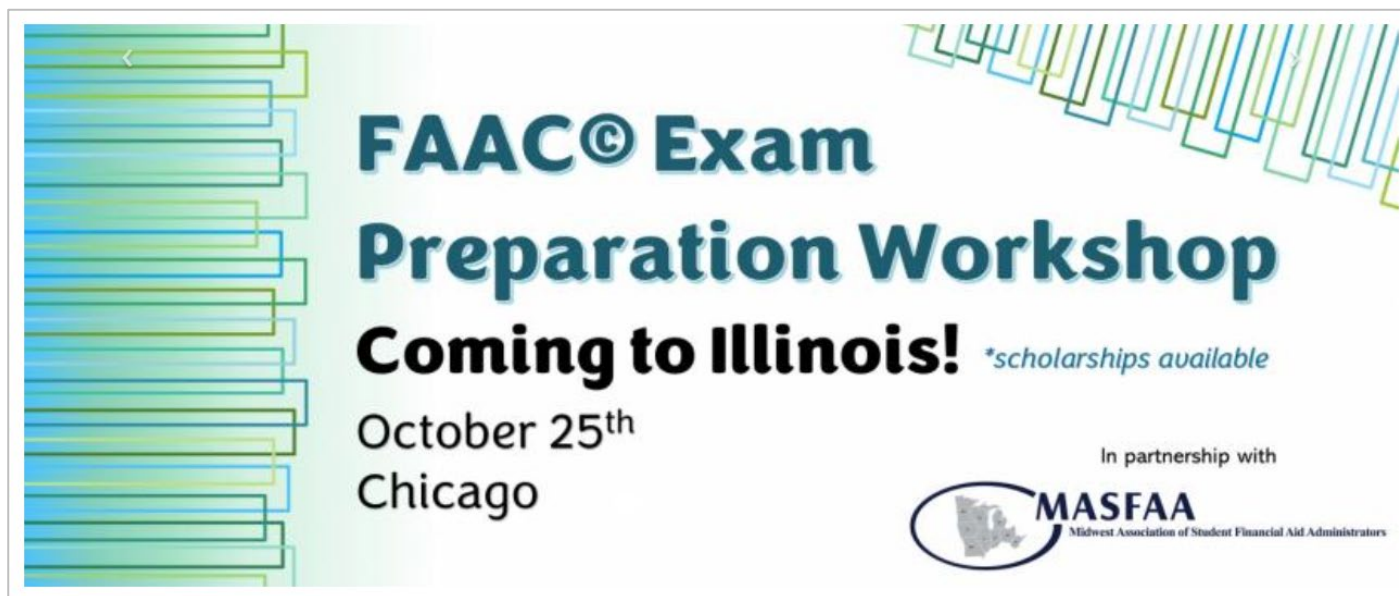
2025-26 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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
- 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
 - fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-08-07/2025-26-fafsa-processing-timeline-update

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 Illinois University – Chicago, IL
- For more information and to register for this event, go to ilasfaa.org/



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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.
 - ❖ October 30
 - ❖ November 27 at 10 a.m., due to the holiday
 - ❖ December 18, 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.
 - ❖ Oct 8 – A Review of the iGROW Tech Scholarship Program, Grant Programs for Dependents of Police-Fire-Correctional Officers, and the Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

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

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

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Questions/Comments



Thank you for attending today!