

# ISAC Operational Update and Program News

January 28, 2026



# Agenda

- 2024-2025 Enrollment Verification
- 2025-2026 Operational Update
- 2026-2027 Operational Update
- Important Dates
- ISAC Contact Information
- Questions

# **2024-25 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2025**

# Program Service Requirements: Enrollment Verification

- Every fall semester, ISAC requests enrollment verification for students who are receiving funds from scholarships that have program requirements.
- ISAC monitors scholarship recipient's fulfillment of the program service requirements.
- Enrollment Status Verification is now available in GAP Access for previous academic year (2024-25) SETTW and MTI recipients.
  - Enrollment verification due date is **February 20, 2026**.
- If a recipient fails to meet the applicable requirements, **the award converts to a loan that must be repaid.**

# Program Service Requirements: Enrollment Verification

- Outside of the main enrollment verification window, requests are primarily sent by the ISAC Program Service Requirements Enrollment Verification Department:

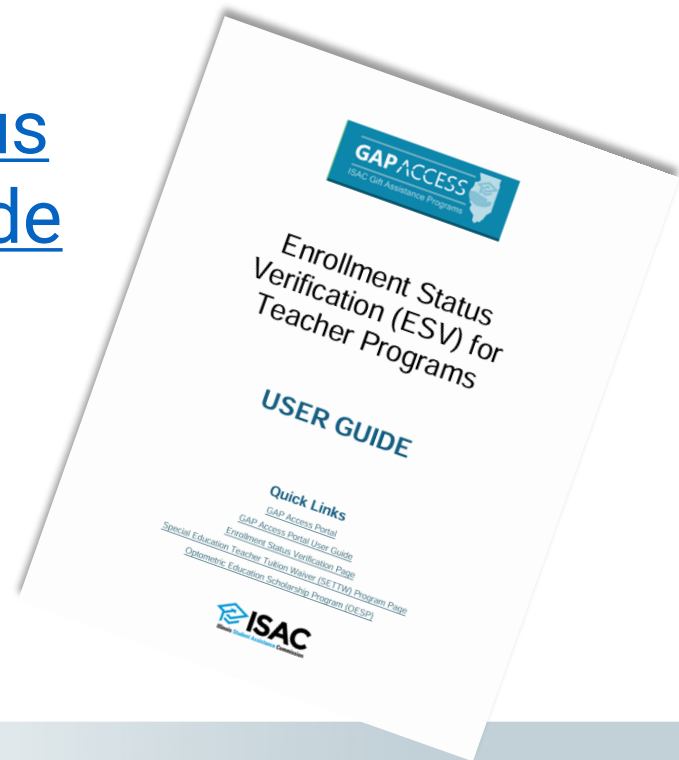


[isac.proreq@illinois.gov](mailto:isac.proreq@illinois.gov)

- Enrollment status verification allows ISAC to communicate with recipients regarding the steps they need to take to fulfill the program service requirements.
  - Prompt submission of enrollment verification data to ISAC will help expedite communication with impacted award recipients.
- Example requests include:
  - Providing the award amount,
  - the last date of attendance in the qualifying program,
  - providing the current enrollment status and effective date.

# Enrollment Status Verification (ESV): Quick Links

- [Enrollment Status Verification \(ESV\) Webpage](#)
- Updated: [Enrollment Status Verification \(ESV\) User Guide](#)



# **2025-26 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2026**

# FY26 ISAC Program Appropriation Summary

## Gift Assistance Programs

- MAP – \$721,566,200
- ECACE Scholarship – \$5,000,000
- Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois – \$10,750,000
- MTI Scholarship – \$8,000,000
- Nursing Education Scholarship (NES) – \$4,000,000
- Grant Programs for Dependents of PFC Officers – \$1,300,000
- Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship – \$1,100,000
- Grant Program for Exonerees – \$150,000
- Post-Master of Social Work Scholarship Program and School & Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program (combined appropriation) – \$2,000,000
- ING Grant and IVG reimbursement – \$6,000,000
- AIM HIGH Grant – \$50,000,000
  - Funds are disbursed in lump sums by ISAC to public universities

# FY26 ISAC Program Appropriation Summary cont.

## Loan Repayment Programs

- Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment – \$7,500,000
- Human Services Professional Loan Repayment – \$1,250,000 (plus remaining FY25 funds)
- Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment – \$975,000
- Nurse Educator Loan Repayment – \$400,000
- Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment – \$26,400

# Clarification regarding General Provisions (2700) Changes for AY24-25

- The administrative rules adopted by the Commission became effective on October 31, 2025.
- These rules include requirements that would ordinarily apply to the 2024–2025 academic year. However, because that award year is fully closed and institutions have already completed all reporting for that period,
  - ISAC will ask institutions to **comply with the newly adopted rules on a prospective basis only, beginning after October 31 for any student that has not yet completed the verification process** and no earlier than Term 2 of the 2025–26 award year for current students.
  - **Both IRS form W-2 and IRS Form 1099-Miscellaneous Income Statements continue to be listed as acceptable documentation of residency under rule 2700.50(e)(4).**

# Clarification regarding General Provisions (2700) Changes for AY24-25 cont.

- Only "a valid State of Illinois tax return or federal tax transcript" was removed from the list.
- The rule also states: "Data from one or more of the documents listed in this subsection (e)(4) may provide proof that an applicant (or parent) is an Illinois resident, as defined in Section 2700.20. **The institution may choose to request documents that are in addition to, or instead of, those listed.** For an independent student applicant, the dates recorded on the documents must indicate the applicant has resided in Illinois for the relevant 12 continuous, full months."

# MAP Payment Processing – Late Claims

## Payment of Late Claims:

- In order to best leverage available funds by assisting the greatest number of eligible students without overspending program appropriations, ISAC staff monitors both payment request (i.e., claim) rates and remaining funding levels throughout the year.
- Based on our current analysis, payment has been approved for 2025-26 MAP late claims received through the date noted below for the first-term. As a reminder, first-term claims are considered late if submitted after December 5, 2025.
  - First-term initial claims and increases that were received from December 6, 2025 through (including) January 23, 2026 will be paid.

# MAP Payment Processing – Late Claims cont.

## Next Steps:

- ISAC will continue to monitor institutions' claims and adjustments and the remaining appropriations and – based on the analysis of that data – decisions will be made regarding whether additional 2025-26 MAP term-one late claims will be paid. Updated information will be shared with you via the usual means of communication (i.e., the MAP Program News page, the FAA Message Board, and ISAC's e-Messaging service).
- Payment processing will happen in the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> and payment results will be available in GAP on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup>.

# MAP Payment Processing – Suspense Release

- Based off current analysis of MAP appropriations and claims received to date it has been determined that ISAC can release the following MAP applications from suspense:
  - **Applications received between June 6, 2025, and July 1, 2025, will be released from suspense and become payable.**
  - Applications received on or after July 2, 2025, will continue to be held in suspense.
- On Friday, January 30, 2026, the MAP portal will be closed in the morning to allow for the update of student records.
  - Once the portal reopens in the afternoon, schools can request payment for the student records released from suspense.
- For more information and updates and information on MAP suspense, see: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/suspense/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/suspense/)

# MAP Payment Processing - Spring

- Payment Processing for Spring term began on **January 5, 2026**.
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> semester MAP Payment Claim Deadline date is **March 27, 2026**.
  - 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.
- August 21 e-Message: [isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821-2.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821-2.html)

# Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program

- The Teachers of Illinois program is a new scholarship program.
- The Application is currently available in the Student Portal.
  - Priority consideration is given to completed application received by **February 16, 2026**.
  - Complete applications submitted after the priority deadline will only considered if funding remains after all timely complete applicants have been awarded.
- MTI applicants have been notified and encouraged to review the eligibility requirements before applying.
  - MTI recipients that were awarded in the previous year will be treated as Renewal Applicants if they are found eligible for the Teachers of Illinois Scholarship.

# Teachers of Illinois: Eligibility Part 1

- be a [U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen](#) or meet the [“undocumented student” criteria of the RISE Act](#)
- be a [resident of Illinois](#)
- be a high school graduate or have received a State of Illinois High School Diploma
- have been enrolled in a public school district in Illinois, at any point in kindergarten through grade 12:
  - that had an average of at least 70% of students who were eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunch; and
  - that had a 3-year average teacher vacancy rate at or above the statewide average, excluding public school districts that had zero vacancies or in which the number of teacher vacancies in the district was at or above the statewide average number of teacher vacancies, excluding public school districts that had zero vacancies

# Teachers of Illinois: Eligibility Part 2

- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment on at least a half-time basis at a qualified Illinois institution of higher education, and;
  - be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a course of study, which upon completion, qualifies you as a licensed preschool, elementary, or secondary school teacher; or
  - if you are already licensed to teach, be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a course of study leading to an additional teaching endorsement or a master's degree in an academic field in which you are teaching or plan to teach; or
  - if you are not yet enrolled in an educator preparation program, have received one or more College and Career Pathway Endorsements and commit to enrolling in a course of study leading to teacher licensure, including alternative teacher licensure, to be a preschool, elementary or secondary school teacher
- have earned a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by your college
- have submitted a complete and timely application

# Teachers of Illinois: Eligibility Part 3

- complete the application process by:
  - submitting a fully completed Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program application, which includes the three elements of the application:
    - Application;
    - Teaching Agreement/Promissory Note; and
    - the Free Application for Federal Students Aid (FAFSA®) or (if applicable) Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
  - In order to receive priority consideration for an award, both complete applications must be received on or before the priority consideration date of February 16, 2026.
- sign the application's Teaching Agreement / Promissory Note promising to fulfill the teaching commitment or repay funds received plus interest
- the teaching commitment must be fulfilled at an Illinois school district
- that has a 3-year average teacher vacancy rate above the state average; or
- where the number of teacher vacancies in the district over the past three years is higher than that of the state

# Teachers of Illinois: Eligibility Part 4

- not be in default on any student loan, nor owe a refund on any state or federal grant. If you are in default, you may re-establish your eligibility
- not have previously received funds from the Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program for the equivalent of four academic years, which is the programs maximum
- not receive funds from the Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program or the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program during the same term(s) for which you receive funds from the Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program. Although recipients of Teachers of Illinois awards are not eligible to receive tuition assistance through the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program for the same term(s), qualified students may be eligible to participate in other scholarship programs through the Golden Apple Foundation.

Qualified applicants may receive Teachers of Illinois Scholarship funds only up to the amount by which their cost of attendance exceeds the amount of their Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant, if applicable.

# Clarifications on Eligibility

- Can a student in a Master's Degree program apply?
  - For an applicant's initial teaching license, the statute does not seem to differentiate between a student enrolled in a BA or a Master's program, **as long as it is "a course of study leading to teacher licensure, including alternative teacher licensure, to be a preschool, elementary, or secondary school teacher."**
- Can a student that is already a certified teacher apply?
  - For a student already certified, the statute grants eligibility to students seeking a "master's degree in an academic field in which he or she is teaching." Or to seek an additional teaching endorsement.

# Teachers of Illinois: Awarding

- Eligible applicants may qualify for an annual award of up to \$7,500 for the regular academic year (fall and spring terms),
  - not to exceed the total cost of attendance at the institution at which the student is enrolled.
  - Because of the timing of this year's award, institutions may, in the best interest of students and to assist with administration of the award, either:
    - package the award across the fall and spring terms or;
    - disburse the award as a lump-sum payment in the spring term.
  - Regardless of the disbursement method, the award shall be considered an annual award, and the recipient will still be required to one full year of service obligation.
- ISAC will be drafting Teachers of IL rules for the 26-27 year and will determine at that time if this flexibility will carry forward in subsequent academic years.
- ISAC plans to open both terms for claims at the same time –some time in the new year **TBD**.

# Teacher of Illinois Requirement.

- To facilitate on-time completion of each student's education preparation program:

Each qualified Illinois institution of higher learning that receives funds from the Teachers of Illinois scholarship program shall ensure that each scholarship recipient enrolled at the institution meets with an academic advisor at least once per academic year to facilitate on-time completion of the recipient's educator preparation program. Institutions shall also submit eligibility information for qualified students in sufficient time for the Commission to make award announcements.

# Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE)

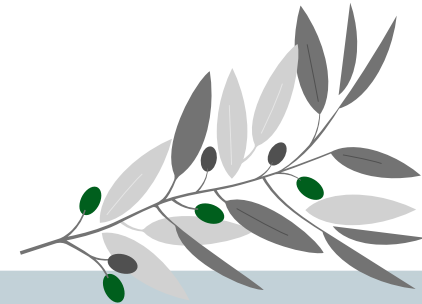
- Colleges have completed the certification process and awarding was completed August 28, 2025.
  - The priority claim deadline date for the *second term* (*spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools*) is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
- Although the *first-term* priority claim deadline date **was December 31, 2025**, colleges may continue submitting first-term claims.

# ECACE Payment Reminders

- 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.
  - 2025-26 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.
  - Schools need to indicate if a student is not eligible for a payment on a per-term basis.
- The ECACE Scholarship:
  - is intended to be last payer, after all other aid has been provided.
  - may be used to replace student loans that might otherwise have been part of the student’s aid package.

# ECACE Quick Links

- ECACE User Guide:  
[isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide.pdf)
- ECACE Program Overview Page:  
[isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/ECACE-scholarship/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/ECACE-scholarship/)



# Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- The 2026-27 SETTW Application is available in the student portal.
- Functionality to certify eligibility for 2025-26 SETTW Program is available in the SETTW system.
- If a qualified applicant is eligible for both the SETTW and the MAP grant, the SETTW award must be used first.
- Schools awarded 2025-26 tuition waivers have been sent an email from ISAC
  - We ask that you certify each student's eligibility via the SETTW system within 60 days of the date on which the e-mail is received.
- If subsequent 2025-26 SETTW awards are announced, ISAC will send similar e-mail messages to impacted institutions.
- Further details are provided at the [Tuition Waiver Process](#) page and in the [Tuition Waiver Certification Process User Guide](#).

# Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program

- Application processing, eligibility certification and awarding is performed by the Golden Apple Foundation [goldenapple.org/scholars](https://goldenapple.org/scholars).
- Eligibility data is available in GAP access as of September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Second-term payment requests (i.e., claims) are being accepted.
  - Timely requests must be submitted on or before **Monday, March 30, 2025**.
  - We encourage claims to be submitted as soon as you can do so.
- See [2025-26 Golden Apple Updates \(September 29, 2025\)](#), [2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data Updates and Reminders \(December 3, 2025\)](#) and [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#) e-Messages for more information.

# Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- The priority claim deadline date for the *second term* (*spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools*) is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
- Although the *first-term* priority claim deadline was **December 31, 2025**, colleges may continue submitting first-term claims.
- For more information see:
  - [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term](#)

# Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- ISAC is accepting ING Grant benefit usage data for the winter quarter and spring term (semester and quarter).
  - Timely submission for winter- and spring-term ING Grant benefit usage data is **Friday, May 29, 2026**.
- For more information see these e-Messages:
  - [Submit 2025-26 IVG & ING Grant Benefit Usage Data \(August 21, 2025\)](#)
  - [2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data Updates and Reminders \(December 3, 2025\)](#)
  - [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#).

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- ISAC is accepting IVG Grant benefit usage data for the winter quarter and spring term (semester and quarter).
  - Timely submission for winter- and spring-term IVG Grant benefit usage data is **Friday, May 29, 2026**.
- For more information see these e-Messages:
  - [Submit 2025-26 IVG & ING Grant Benefit Usage Data \(August 21, 2025\)](#)
  - [2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data Updates and Reminders \(December 3, 2025\)](#)
  - [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#).

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

- The 2025-26 online application is currently available.
- Certification is available in the SWSP system via GAP Access as of September 19, 2025
- Second term priority claim deadline is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
- For current information, see the Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program section of our website: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/SWSP/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/SWSP/)
- See the [2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data Updates and Reminders \(December 3, 2025\)](#) and [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#) e-Messages for more information.

# Grant Programs for Dependents of Police/Fire/Correctional Officers (PFC)

- Beginning with the 2025-26 academic year, the application process is completed online in GAP.
- To receive full-year consideration, an application must have been submitted on or before October 1, 2025.
  - October 1, 2025 – Full Year Consideration
  - March 1, 2026 – Only 2nd Semester (2nd/3rd Quarter) and Summer Consideration
  - June 15, 2026 – Only Summer Term Consideration
- Applications received by ISAC after these deadline dates will be processed only for subsequent terms, with June 15, 2026 as the final date of acceptance for the summer term.
- [2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data Updates and Reminders](#)

# PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 1

- As part of our ongoing efforts to best leverage appropriated funds to award as many eligible students as possible, priority payment request (claim) deadline dates are established for each term.
  - The *first-term (fall)* priority claim deadline was **January 23, 2026**.
  - The *second-term (spring)* priority claim deadline is **TBD**.
- Claims submitted after a term's priority claim deadline date will be paid only if funds remain after all timely claims have been paid.
- For more payment information see:
  - [December 30 "2025-26 PFC Processing via GAP Access" e-Message](#)

## PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 2

To request payment, complete the following:

1. From the Payment List screen, click on the green dollar sign symbol next to the student.
  - a. Note: to make sorting by term easier, select sort by term from the Filter screen.



2. After clicking the green dollar sign, the **Student Detail: Payment** screen will appear. The student's name and SSN will be displayed at the top of the page. To request payment, each of the following sections must be completed: (See next slides for steps with pictures.)

# PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 3

2.a

| Terms             | 1-Fall                           | 2-Spring                         | 4-Summer                         |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                              | 022                              | 022                              |
| Request           | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Academic Level    | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Requested Amount  | \$ <input type="text"/>          | \$ <input type="text"/>          | \$ <input type="text"/>          |
| Term Award Amount | 11713.00                         | 0.00                             | 0.00                             |

2.b

| Terms             | 1-Fall                           | 2-Spring                         | 4-Summer                         |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                              | 022                              | 022                              |
| Request           | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Academic Level    | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> | <input type="button" value="▼"/> |
| Requested Amount  | \$ <input type="text"/>          | \$ <input type="text"/>          | \$ <input type="text"/>          |
| Term Award Amount | 11713.00                         | 0.00                             | 0.00                             |

- a. **Request** – either select Payment, Cancel, Ineligible, or delete.
- **Payment** – will submit a payment request for the requested amount upon payment submission.
  - **Cancel** – will cancel a previous request. After processing, a new request can be submitted.
  - **Ineligible** – marks student as unable to be paid. If this is selected, an ineligible reason must be provided.
  - **Delete** – removes records in U (Unpaid) status. Once a record is in S (Submitted) status, it cannot be deleted using this feature.
- b. **Enrollment Status** – select either Full time or Half time.

# PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 4

## 2.c

| Terms             | 1-Fall                  | 2-Spring                | 4-Summer                |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                     | 022                     | 022                     |
| Request           | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Academic Level    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Requested Amount  | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| Term Award Amount | 11713.00                | 0.00                    | 0.00                    |

- c. **Enrollment Hours** – Enter the current number of enrollment hours. This will be used for benefit tracking purposes.

## 2.d

| Terms             | 1-Fall                  | 2-Spring                | 4-Summer                |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                     | 022                     | 022                     |
| Request           | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Academic Level    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Requested Amount  | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| Term Award Amount |                         | 0.00                    | 0.00                    |

- d. **Academic Level** – Select the student's current academic level.

# PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 5

2.e

| Terms             | 1-Fall               | 2-Spring             | 4-Summer                |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                  | 022                  | 022                     |
| Request           | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>    |
| Academic Level    | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>    |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>    |
| Requested Amount  | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| Term Award Amount | <input type="text"/> | 0.00                 | 0.00                    |
| Activity Date     | <input type="text"/> |                      |                         |
| Status            | <input type="text"/> |                      |                         |

- Not enrolled this term
- Defaulted Student Loan
- Not making satisfactory academic progress
- Enrolled less than 6 credit hours
- Student is not accepting PFC Scholarship
- No remaining unmet cost

e. **Ineligible Reason** – If the student has been indicated as ineligible in the Request section, select one of the following:

- Not enrolled this term
- Defaulted Student Loan
- Not making satisfactory academic progress
- Enrolled less than 6 credit hours
- Student is not accepting PFC Scholarship
- No remaining unmet cost

# PFC Payment Request Entry: Part 6

- f. **Requested Amount** – Request the desired amount for the student’s award.
- The total amount of a student’s gift assistance may not exceed the student’s cost of attendance at that institution. Any excess gift assistance is considered an over-award, and the institution is required to notify ISAC to reduce this grant and/or other gift assistance to prevent such an over-award.

**2.f**

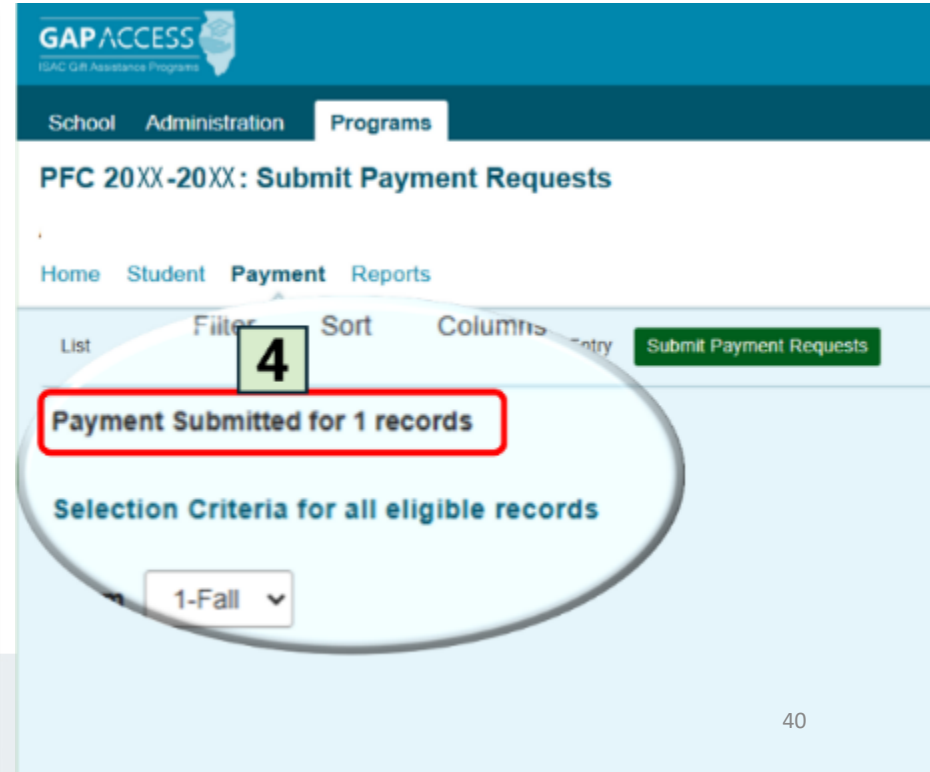
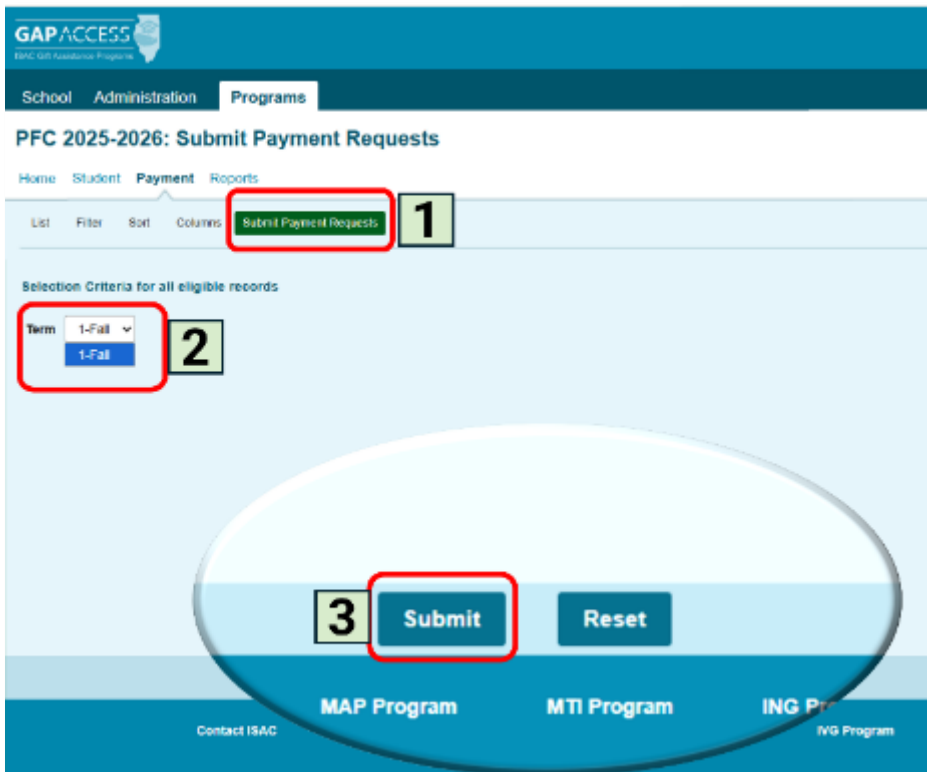
| Terms             | 1-Fall                  | 2-Spring                | 4-Summer                |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| School Code       | 022                     | 022                     | 022                     |
| Request           | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Status | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Enrollment Hours  | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Academic Level    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Ineligible Reason | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>    |
| Requested Amount  | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| Term Award Amount | 11713.00                | 0.00                    | 0.00                    |

3. Once all the appropriate fields are completed, at the bottom of the screen click either:
  - a. **Save Changes** – saves the information entered; or
  - b. **Discard Changes** – deletes changes

# PFC Submit Payment Request

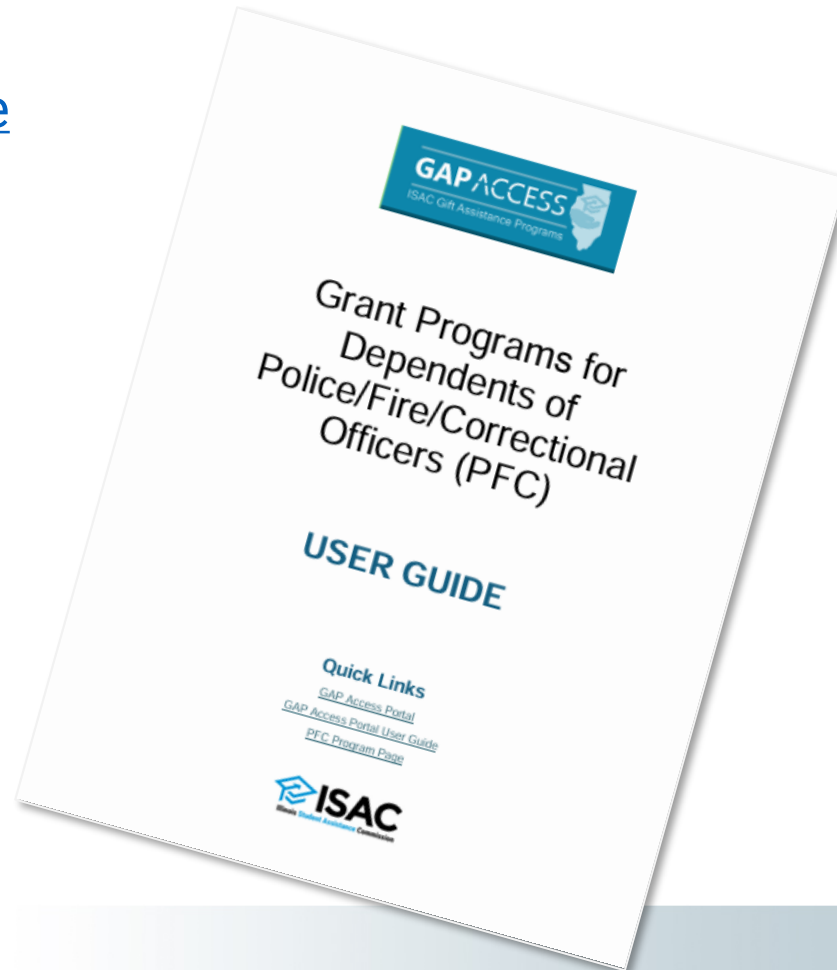
Once all payment requests are created for all students for the term, submit the payment requests from the Payment screen.

1. Select the Submit Payment Request tab.
2. Verify that the correct term is selected.
3. Click submit.
4. A line of text will appear stating the number of records submitted.



# PFC Resources

- For more information on Payment Processing within GAP Access, see:
  - [PFC User Guide](#)
  - [PFC Program Page](#)



# Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship

- The 2025-26 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal
- The priority application consideration date for full-year and fall-only awards must have been completed by October 1, 2025
  - The date by which an application must be submitted is based on the first term for which the applicant is requesting funds. For the 2025-26 academic year:
    - **October 1, 2025** – 1st term only or full year consideration
    - **March 1, 2026** – 2nd semester (2nd/3rd quarter) only or 2nd semester (2nd/3rd quarter) and summer term consideration
    - **June 15, 2026** – summer term only consideration
- Students may use the 2025-26 application to apply for the fall 2025, spring 2026, and summer 2026 terms.

# Grant Program for Exonerees and Their Dependents (GPE)

- The 2025-26 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal.
- Applications are processed in date-received (i.e., "first come, first served") order.
  - For priority consideration each year, a complete application – including any supporting documentation – must be submitted as soon as possible after it becomes available.
- Funds can be applied only to tuition and mandatory fees and only for two semesters or three quarters in a regular school year.

# **2026-27 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2027**

# 2026-27 MAP Start-Up Formula

## Start-Up Formula

- On September 18, 2025, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission approved the 2026-27 (FY27) MAP start-up formula, which follows the FY26 recompute formula.
- Following the FY26 recompute formula, the following is being used in the start-up formula for 2026-27 MAP grants:
  - **2021-22 reported tuition and fees;**
  - **the 2021-22 Pell Grant Payment Schedule;**
  - **a \$5,200 living allowance;** and,
  - **an \$8,400 maximum award (with an effective maximum of \$8,064 after the 4% reduction).**
- More information – including the 2026-27 Start-up Hand Calculation Forms and information about related file layout specifications – will be posted at this website as it becomes available.

## Alternative Application

- The 2026-27 Alternative Application is available as of October 1, 2025.

# Federal Loans: Borrowing Limits

*For periods of enrollment beginning on/after July 1, 2026*

| <b>Borrower Type:</b>                             | <b>Undergraduate sub/unsub (no change)</b> | <b>Graduate unsub</b> | <b>Professional unsub</b>                   | <b>Parent PLUS</b> |
|---|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>Annual</b>                                     | \$5,500-\$12,500                           | \$20,500              | \$50,000                                    | \$20,000           |
| <b>Aggregate</b>                                  | \$31,000-\$57,500                          | \$100,000             | \$200,000<br>(combined GP/not including UG) | \$65,000*          |
| <b>Lifetime Limit (All levels; PLUS excluded)</b> | \$257,500*                                 | \$257,500*            | \$257,500*                                  | N/A                |

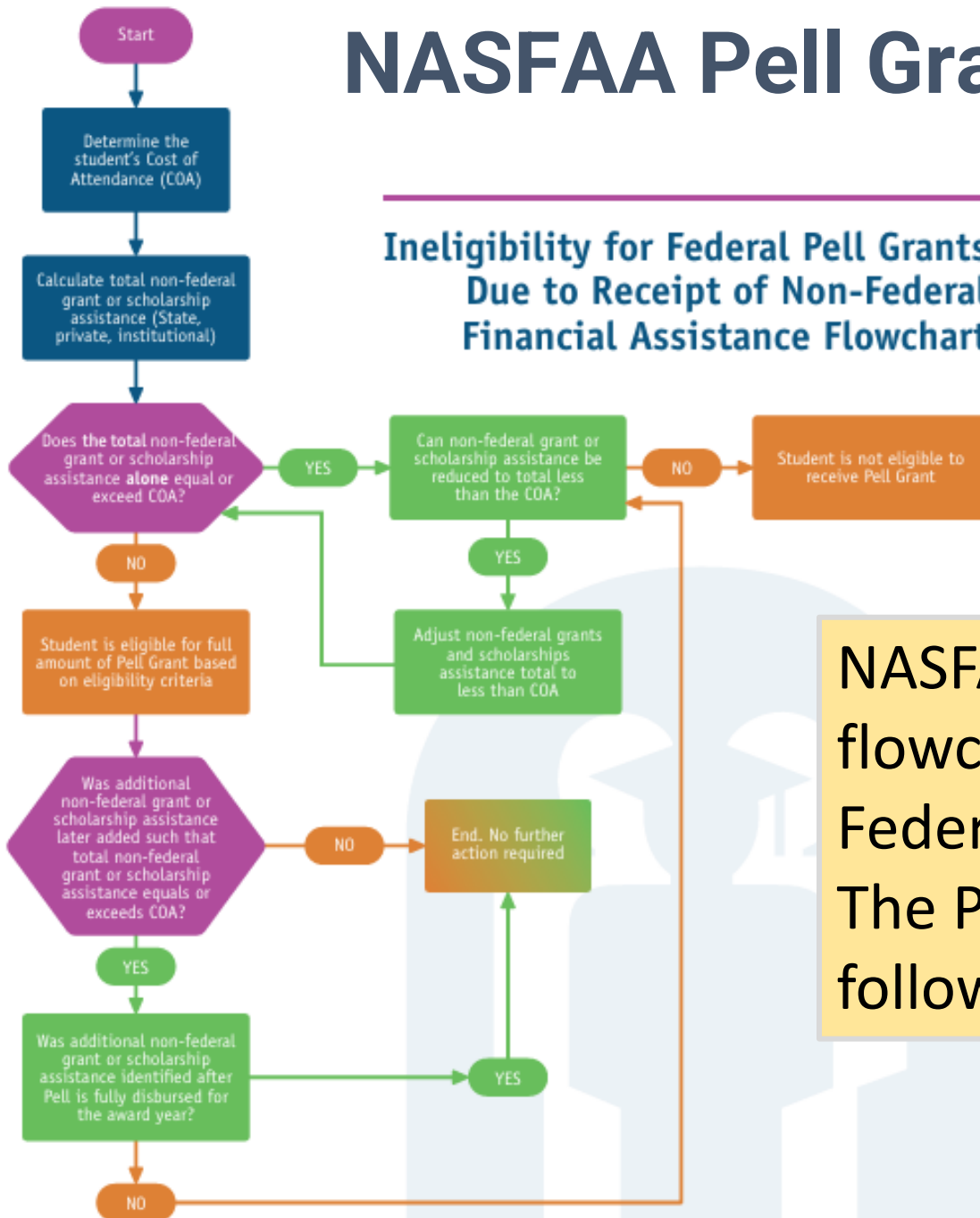
\*without regard to any amounts repaid, forgiven, canceled, or otherwise discharged.

# Interim Exceptions

## New Loan Rules DO NOT apply:

- For students who were enrolled in a program of study as of June 30, 2026
  - And a Direct Loan was made (disbursed) for that program of study prior to July 1, 2026
- During a student's expected time to credential
  - Maximum of 3 years
- For Parent PLUS legacy eligibility only:
  - A student who changes majors within the same degree or certificate will be considered to be enrolled in the same program of study.

# NASFAA Pell Grant Flow Chart



NASFAA has provided a flowchart to help determine Federal Pell Grant eligibility. The PDF can be found at the following link: [flowchart](#)

# Federal Loan Updates: Quick Links

- [studentaid.gov/announcements-events/big-updates](https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/big-updates)
- [nasfaa.org/ob3](https://nasfaa.org/ob3) (Membership may be required to view some resources)
- [NASFAA Pell Eligibility Flowchart](#) (No membership required)

# Important Dates & Contact Information

# Upcoming Training Opportunities

**March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

## **2026 FEDERAL STUDENT AID TRAINING CONFERENCE FOR FINANCIAL AID PROFESSIONALS**

**March 4-6, 2026, in Washington, D.C.!**

U.S. Department of Education will host the 2026 FSA Training Conference for financial aid professionals at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.

For more information see: [fsapartners.ed.gov](https://fsapartners.ed.gov)

Registration by lottery was due by  
Jan. 23, 2026.

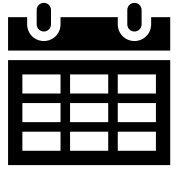
**March 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



ILASFAA will be hosting their annual conference at the Westin located in Lombard, IL. This year's theme is "Navigating the Upside Down."

For more information see: [ilasfaa.org](https://ilasfaa.org)

Registration is available.



# ISAC Calendar

## Webinars - Monthly Program & Operational Update

February

25<sup>th</sup>

@ 2 p.m.

March

25<sup>th</sup>

@ 2 p.m.


April

29<sup>th</sup>

@ 2 p.m.

# ISAC's Student Engagement & Support Services

For inquiries from students, parents, and the general public:

 : **800-899-ISAC (4722)**


 : [\*\*isac.studentservices@illinois.gov\*\*](mailto:isac.studentservices@illinois.gov)

Fax : 847-831-8549

Spanish-speaking counselors are available  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

# ISAC's Partner Services Department

Provides program information, policy guidance, training and support to colleges, high schools and other ISAC partners

 : 866-247-2172

 : [isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov](mailto:isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov)

Fax : 847-831-8549

## Partner Services Team

**Hannah Castellanos** [Hannah.Castellanos@illinois.gov](mailto:Hannah.Castellanos@illinois.gov)

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# Questions?





Thank you for attending today!