

ISAC Operational Update and Program News

March 25, 2026



Agenda

- 2025-2026 Operational Update
- 2026-2027 Operational Update
- Important Dates & Contact Information
- Questions

2025-26 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

MAP Payment Processing – Late Claims

Payment of Late Claims:

- Based on our current analysis, payment has been approved for 2025-26 MAP late initial claims & increases **received from December 6, 2025, through (including) March 11, 2026, will be paid.**

Next Steps:

- ISAC is continuing to accept fall-term claims; however, **initial claims and upward adjustment amounts for the fall term submitted after March 11 will be held as late**, to be considered for payment later in the year.
- ISAC will continue to monitor institutions' claims and adjustments and the remaining appropriations and decisions will be made regarding whether additional 2025-26 MAP term-one late claims will be paid.

MAP Payment Processing – Suspense Release

- Based off current analysis of MAP appropriations and claims received to date it has been determined that ISAC released the following:
 - **Applications received between June 6, 2025, and July 1, 2025, were released from suspense and have become payable.**
 - Applications received on or after July 2, 2025, will continue to be held in suspense.
 - ISAC will continue to monitor the appropriation and claims to see if an additional release can be made in the future.
 - The deadline date for submitting first-term claims for these records, as well as second-term claims, is **Friday, March 27, 2026.**
- For more information and updates and information on MAP suspense, see: isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/suspense/

MAP Payment Processing – Spring & Third Term

- The 2nd semester MAP Payment Claim Deadline date is **March 27, 2026**.
- Payment processing for third term (quarter schools) is now available.
 - The third term claim deadline is **May 8, 2026**
- August 21 e-Message: isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821-2.html

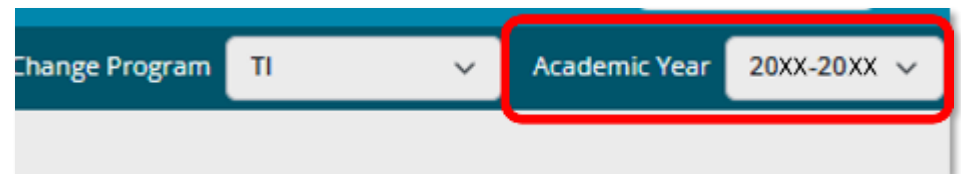
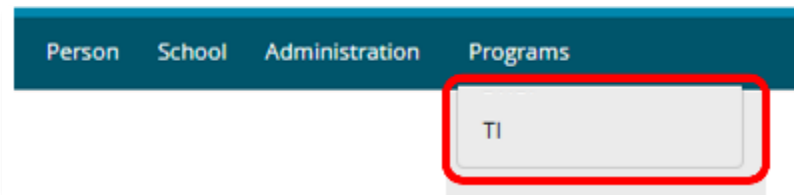
Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program

- Certification will be made available in GAP this week.
 - We ask that college complete certification as soon as possible.
- ISAC plans to open both terms for payment claims at the same time –**TBD**.
 - Payment screens will be presented in a future webinar once available.



TISP – Certification 1/7

- To access TI certification:
 - Login to GAP.
 - Select TI from the programs drop-down tab.
 - Double check the current academic year is selected (2025-2026)



TISP – Certification 2/7

Certification for TISP is completed from the certification tab in GAP access.

1. Click on the certification tab within the TISP program in GAP.
2. Click on the document magnification icon in the Certification Details column.



TISP – Certification 3/7

3. Complete each of the prompts:

a. Eligible

- Yes – Then the red highlighted sections must be completed (b – g see below).
- No – Must complete the Ineligible Reason section only (h see below).

3.a

Eligible - Yes		Eligible - No	
Eligible	Yes	Eligible	No
Academic Level		Academic Level	
Is the student bilingual		Is the student bilingual	
Bilingual Type		Bilingual Type	
Bilingual program		Bilingual program	
Career Pathway Endorsement		Career Pathway Endorsement	
SAI		SAI	
Ineligible Reason		Ineligible Reason	

TISP – Certification 4/7

b. Academic Level

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate

c. Is the student bilingual

- Yes – If selected, must complete sections d & e.
- No – If selected, continue to section f to complete certification.

3.c

Bilingual – Yes

Eligible	Yes
Academic Level	--Select--
Is the student bilingual	Yes
Bilingual Type	
Bilingual program	
Career Pathway Endorsement	
SAI	
Ineligible Reason	

Bilingual – No

Eligible	Yes
Academic Level	--Select--
Is the student bilingual	No
Bilingual Type	
Bilingual program	
Career Pathway Endorsement	
SAI	
Ineligible Reason	

TISP – Certification 5/7

d. Bilingual Type

- State Seal of Biliteracy
- Passed educator licensure proficiency test
- All of the above

e. Bilingual program

- Bilingual educator preparation program
- Other

f. Career Pathway Endorsement

- Yes
- No

g. SAI – Input the numerical value of a students calculated SAI.

TISP – Certification 5/7

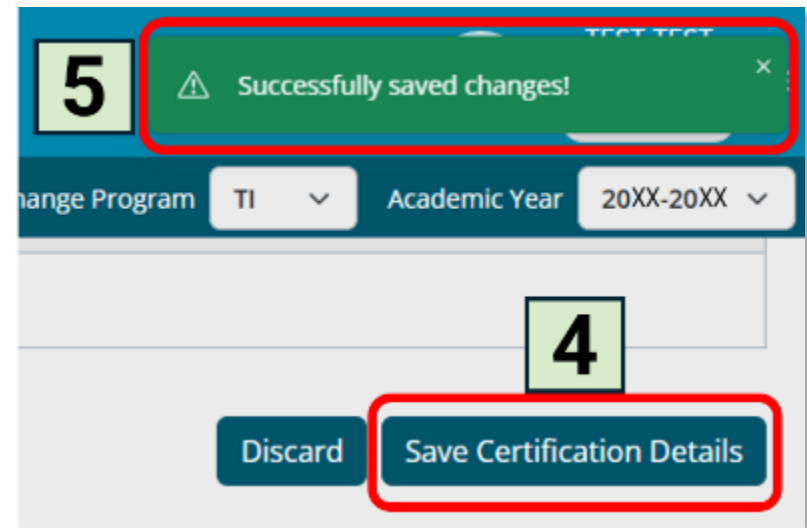
If “No” was selected for Eligible, then an Ineligible Reason must be provided:

h. Ineligible Reason

- Not a US Citizen/eligible non-citizen
- Not an Illinois resident
- Not a HS grad/no GED
- Defaulted student loan
- Conflicting scholarship
- Not making satisfactory academic progress
- Reached max number of years allowed
- GPA not at least a 2.5 on 4.0 scale (soph or above)
- Not enrolled at least half time
- Student is not accepting TI
- Not enrolled in participating school
- Not enrolled
- Not enrolled in teacher program

TISP – Certification 6/7

4. After selecting the appropriate options for the student, click **Save Certification Details** in the bottom right corner of the screen
5. “**Successfully saved changes!**” message will appear in the upper right of the screen.



TISP – Certification 7/7

6. Students marked as eligible will now appear on other screens in GAP:

a. Certification List Eligibility: View screen

- the Eligible column will populate as either a Y or N

b. Student List Eligibility: View screen

- The Certified Eligible, Certified Date, Academic Level, Bilingual Certification, and SAI columns will populate the information from the completed certification.

6.a

GAP ACCESS
ISAC Gift Assistance Programs

School Programs

Home / TI / Certification

Home Student **Certification**

TI 20XX-20XX: Certification List Eligibility: View

Eligible	Transfer
Y	
Y	

6.b

Home / TI / Student List

Home **Student** Certification

TI 20XX-20XX: Student List Eligibility: View

Certified Eligible	Certified Date	Academic Level	Bilingual Certifi...	SAI
Y	03/23/20XX	Freshman	Y	10

TISP – User Guide

- The [Teacher of Illinois Scholarship Program \(TISP\) User Guide](#) is available on our website
 - (this is a document in progress as we await payment screens to complete further sections).



Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE)

- The priority claim deadline date for the **second-term** (spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools):
 - **Monday, March 30, 2026.**
- Priority claim deadline for **third-term** (spring for quarter schools):
 - **Friday, May 8, 2026**
- Although the *first-term* priority claim deadline date **was December 31, 2025**, colleges may continue submitting first-term claims.

ECACE – Complete Payment Requests for ALL Students

- To best leverage funds for students, we encourage schools to complete payment requests for all students including students that are ineligible.
- If a student will not be utilizing the scholarship, mark the student as ineligible and select the appropriate reason.
- This will allow ISAC to utilize the award for other students.
- ISAC will notify schools of if additional ECACE recipients are determined.

Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- Functionality to certify eligibility for 2025-26 SETTW Program is available in the SETTW system.
- If subsequent 2025-26 SETTW awards are announced, ISAC will send e-mail messages to impacted institutions.
 - 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.

Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program

- ISAC is accepting claims for the *second (spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools)* and *third (spring for quarter schools)* terms.
 - The second-term priority claim deadline is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
 - The third-term priority claim deadline is **Friday, May 8, 2026**.
- We encourage claims to be submitted as soon as you can do so.
- See [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#) e-Message for more information.

2025-2026 Academic Year - Comparison of Teacher Education Programs

	Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship	Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois	Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver	Teachers of Illinois Scholarship	TEACH Grant Program (Federal program)
Priority Application Date	May 19, 2025	April 1, 2025	March 1, 2025	February 16, 2026	No set date
Maximum Award (cannot exceed the cost of attendance)	Up to \$7,500 per academic year	Up to \$2,500 during the first or second year as a Golden Apple Scholar and up to \$5,000 during the third, fourth, or fifth year as a Scholar	Exemption from paying tuition and mandatory fees for up to 4 calendar years	Up to \$7,500 per academic year, maximum of 8 semesters or 12 quarters	Up to \$4,000 per academic year
Cost of Attendance	Up to the total cost of attendance	Tuition, mandatory fees, room and board (or commuter allowances), and the cost of attendance	Tuition and mandatory fees	Up to the total cost of attendance after other financial aid. Cannot exceed the cost of attendance.	Up to the total cost of attendance after other financial aid. Cannot exceed cost of attendance.
Eligible Institutions	All Illinois public and private colleges	All Illinois public and private colleges	ISAC-approved Illinois public or private colleges	ISAC-approved Illinois public or private colleges	Institutions participating in the TEACH Grant Program

2025-26 Academic Year Comparison of Teacher Programs

To view a PDF of this chart, see [2025-2026 Academic Year – Comparison of Teacher Education Programs](#)

Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- ISAC is accepting claims for the *second* (*spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools*) and *third* (*spring for quarter schools*) terms.
 - The *second-term* priority claim deadline is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
 - The *third-term* priority claim deadline is **Friday, May 8, 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 Veteran (IVG) & National Guard (ING) Grants

IVG

- ISAC is accepting IVG Grant benefit usage data for the winter quarter and spring term (semester and quarter).
- Timely submission for winter- & spring-term is **Friday, May 29, 2026**.

ING

- ISAC is accepting ING Grant benefit usage data for the winter quarter and spring term (semester and quarter).
- Timely submission for winter- & spring-term 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**.
- See the [Submit 2025-26 Claims and Benefit Usage Data for Second Term \(January 16, 2026\)](#) e-Message for more information.

PFC Payment

- Effective March 23, 2026, ISAC is accepting claims for the second (spring for semester schools; winter for quarter schools) and third (spring for quarter schools) term.
 - The second-term priority claim deadline is **Monday, March 30, 2026**.
 - The third-term priority claim deadline is **Friday, May 8, 2026**.
- 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](#)

Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship

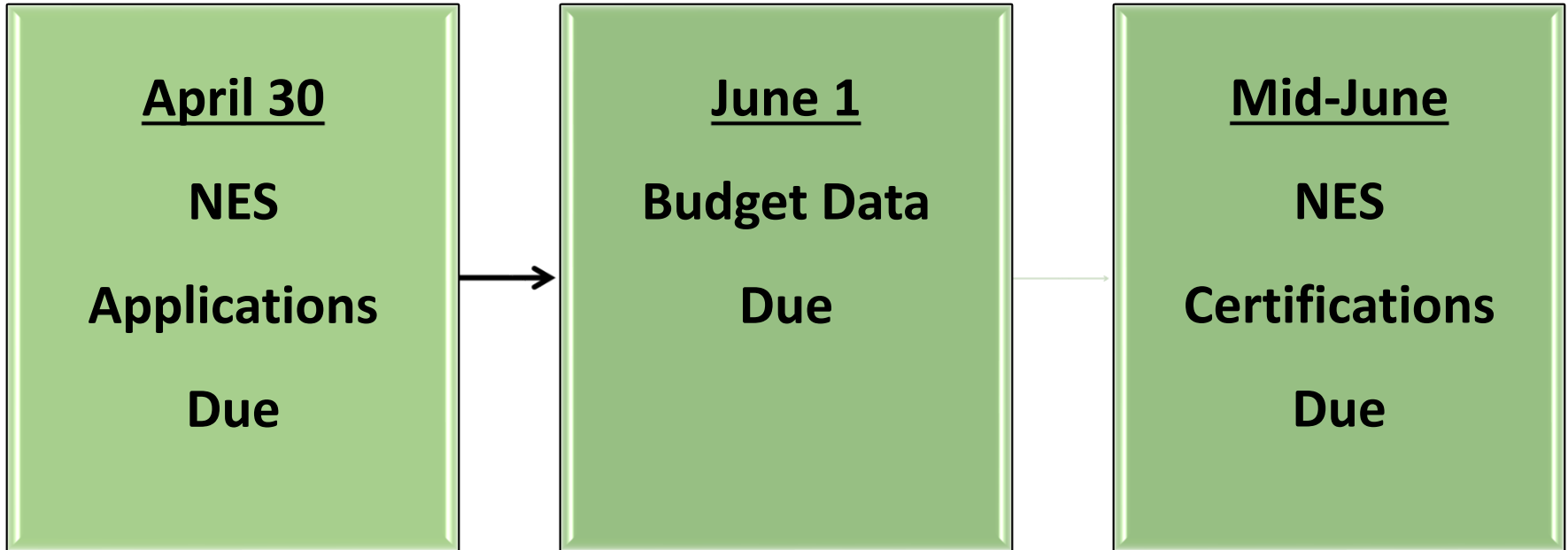
- The 2025-26 online application is available in the ISAC Student Portal
 - The date by which an application must be submitted is based on the first term for which the applicant is requesting funds. For the 2025-26 academic year:
 - **June 15, 2026** – summer term only consideration
- Students may use 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

Upcoming Important Dates – for 2026-27

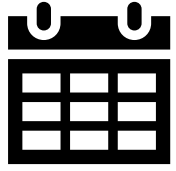


****FAFSA and Alternative Application remain available. Students should complete these as soon as possible!****

Budget Data – 2026-27

- The [annual reporting of postsecondary institutions' budget information](#) is anticipated to begin in early April 2026.
- ISAC will notify colleges when this data is being accepted for the 2026-27 academic year.
- Colleges participating in the [Monetary Award Program \(MAP\)](#) and the [Illinois Veteran Grant \(IVG\)](#) and [Illinois National Guard \(ING\) Grant](#) programs must then submit 2026-27 budget data to ISAC **no later than Monday, June 1, 2026.**
- See e-messages for more details.

Important Dates & Contact Information



ISAC Calendar

Webinars - Monthly Program & Operational Update

April

29th

@ 2 p.m.

May

27th

@ 2 p.m.

June

24th

@ 2 p.m.


Holiday Schedules

ISAC Staff will be unavailable:

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 25, 2026
- Juneteenth – Friday, June 19, 2026

ISAC's Student Engagement & Support Services

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

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


 : **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

Fax : 847-831-8549

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Questions?



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Thank you for attending today!