

# ISAC Operational Update and Program News

November 19, 2025



# 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.
- If a recipient fails to meet the applicable requirements, **the award converts to a loan that must be repaid.**
  - Enrollment verification is due from the schools on **December 31, 2025**
  - This year we will request enrollment verification for MTI and SETTW scholarships in the fall semester.

# 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 Verification: Access

1. Log in to GAP and select the program you are going to complete verification for ie. SETTW, MTI

GAP ACCESS  
ISAC GAP Assistance Programs

Person School Administration **Programs** Administration Beta

SETTW

Home Student Certification Enrollment Status Verification

Welcome to the internet application for processing the Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program.

Verify Enrollment Status – select the previous academic year (2024-25)

Certify Eligibility – select the current academic year (2025-26)

Academic Year  
2024-2025

2. To access the Enrollment Status Verification, first select the previous academic year.

3. Next, Select the Enrollment status Verification tab.

GAP ACCESS  
ISAC GAP Assistance Programs

Person School Administration **Programs** Administration Beta

SETTW

Status Verification: View

Select School and School Code:  
-- ALL SCHOOLS --

-- ALL SCHOOLS --

Home Student Certification **Enrollment Status Verification**

# Enrollment Verification: SETTW

Only students for whom ISAC records indicate previously received SETTW awards and may have been enrolled during previous academic years with an “In School” status will display.

The statuses that display for SETTW recipients are different than those for all other programs. See the Enrollment Status Verification Codes chart.

The screenshot shows the SETTW Enrollment Status Verification: View interface. A red arrow points to the 'Administration Beta' tab. A red box highlights the 'GRADUATED' status in the enrollment status dropdown of a student record. An inset window shows the full list of enrollment status codes.

Enrollment Status	Effective Date
IN SCHOOL	
CANCELLED - NOT USED	
CONTINUOUS ENROLLED IN PROGRAM, BUT NO LONGER MEETS RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS	
DROPPED PROGRAM - ENROLLED	
DROPPED PROGRAM - NOT ENROLLED	
GRADUATED	
<b>IN SCHOOL</b>	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE EXPIRED - NOT RE-ENROLLED IN PROGRAM	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE EXPIRED - NOT RETURNED TO SCHOOL	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE EXPIRED - RE-ENROLLED IN PROGRAM	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE - APPROVED EARN FUNDS	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE - APPROVED TUITION	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE - APPROVED MILITARY SERVICES	
LESS THAN HALF TIME ENROLLED	
NOT MAINTAINING SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS	
TRANSFERRED	
TUITION WAIVER EXPIRED - ENROLLED IN PROGRAM	
TUITION WAIVER EXPIRED - NOT ENROLLED IN PROGRAM	
TUITION WAIVER USED RECLASSIFIED WAIVER - STILL ENROLLED IN PROGRAM	
TUITION WAIVER USED - NO LONGER SEEKING INITIAL TEACHER CERT. IN SPECIAL ED IN STATE	

# Enrollment Verification: SETTW

- An Effective Date is required if the Enrollment Status is changed from an In-School status. Click on the calendar icon in the “Effective Date” field and select a date appropriate with the Enrollment Status.
  - An Effective Date is not required if the enrollment status is In-School or Cancelled –Not Used.
- Each screen will need to be “saved” before navigating to another screen or submitting the data.
- The reason the recipient is no longer eligible for a waiver is the same reason reported as the enrollment status.

Person School Administration **Programs** Administration Beta

**SETTW** Enrollment Status Verification: View

Select School and School Code:

-- ALL SCHOOLS --

-- ALL SCHOOLS --

Home Student Certification **Enrollment Status Verification**

Entries displayed 100

#	TWC	Current SSN	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Enrollment Status	Effective Date
1		xxx-xx-				IN SCHOOL	
2		xxx-xx-				IN SCHOOL	
3		xxx-xx-				GRADUATED	

# Enrollment Verification: SETTW Tuition Waiver Conversion (TWC)

A Tuition Waiver Conversion (TWC) must be completed for all SETTW recipients who are no longer enrolled. A TWC is not required if the enrollment status is In-School or Cancelled - Not Used.

**1** Click on the icon in the TWC field on the left side of the screen.

The screenshot shows the 'SETTW Enrollment Status Verification' page. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Person', 'School', 'Administration', 'Programs', and 'Administration'. Below this is the page title 'SETTW 2023-2024: Enrollment Status Verification: \'. There are more navigation links: 'Home', 'Student', 'Certification', and 'Enrollment Status Verification'. A dropdown menu shows 'Entries displayed' set to '100'. Below this is a table with columns: '#', 'TWC', 'Current SSN', 'Last Name', 'First Name', 'Middle Name', and 'Enroll'. The first three rows of the table are visible. The 'TWC' column for the first three rows contains a small icon, which is highlighted by a red box. A red arrow points from this icon to the right-hand screenshot.

#	TWC	Current SSN	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Enroll
1		XXX-XX-				IN St
2		XXX-XX-				IN St
3		XXX-XX-				GRA

**2** Select the year, term, college name and enter the tuition amount for each term (by academic year) that the tuition and mandatory fees were waived.

The screenshot shows the 'SETTW Enrollment Status Verification' page. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Home', 'Certification', and 'Enrollment Status Verification'. Below this is a 'Name:' field. Below the name field is a table with columns: 'Year', 'Term', 'School', and 'Tuition \$'. The first row of the table is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the 'School' column of this row to the right-hand screenshot.

Year	Term	School	Tuition \$

Showing 1 - 10 out of 25

# Enrollment Verification: SETTW Submit

## Submitting ESV & SETTW TWC Data

1. Select **Submit** to send the enrollment status verification and SETTW TWC data.
  
2. A message will appear asking whether to **Review Information** or **Submit Enrollment**.
  - **If “Review Information” is selected:**  
You’ll return to the *Enrollment Status Verification* screen.
  
  - **If “Submit Enrollment” is selected:**
    - If required fields are missing, an error message will appear at the top of the screen.
    - Complete any missing information, click **Save**, then select **Submit Enrollment** again.
    - If a TWC is missing for SETTW recipients who are *no longer In-School or Cancelled – Not Used*, an error message will display.
  
  - **If “Close” is selected:**  
You’ll return to the *Enrollment Status Verification* screen.

## SETTW Tuition Waiver Conversion (TWC) Screen Fields

Field	Field Type	Definition	Rule
Year	Updateable / Drop Down	Year the tuition was waived	Select the year the tuition was waived.
Term	Updateable / Drop Down	Term of the waived tuition. Semester School = 1 (Fall), 2 (Spring) and 3 (Summer)	Select the term from the drop-down box
School	Updateable	College where the SETTW was applied.	Select the college from the drop-down box
Tuition \$	Updateable/Numeric	Tuition and mandatory fees amount waived for the term	Enter an amount, decimal points and comma can be entered but no special characters.
Transfer	Updateable	College the student transferred to.	Select the college from the drop-down box

**Enrollment Status Verification**

You have indicated you are ready to submit the Enrollment Status Verification. You are encouraged to review all information on this page prior to continuing.

What would you like to do?

Review Information

Submit Enrollment

Close

# Enrollment Verification: MTI

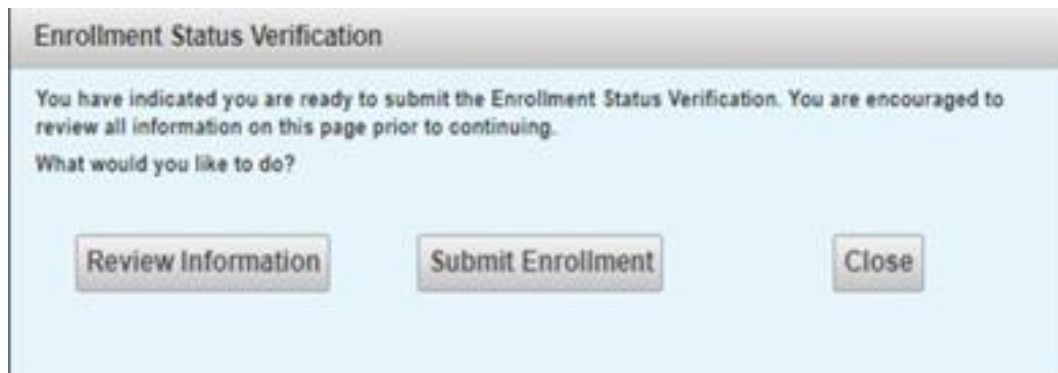
- Only students for whom ISAC records indicate previously received MTI awards and may have been enrolled during previous academic year with an “In School” status (sorted in alphabetical order) will display.

- 1** If a student is no longer enrolled, select a different status from the drop-down box in the Enrollment Status field.
- 2** An Effective Date is required if the Enrollment Status is changed from an In-School status.
  - Click on the calendar icon in the “Effective Date” field and select a date appropriate with the Enrollment Status.

The screenshot displays the 'MTI Enrollment Status Verification: View' interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Person', 'School', 'Administration', 'Programs', and 'Administration Lists'. Below these, there's a search bar for 'Select School and School Code:' with a dropdown menu set to '--- ALL SCHOOLS ---' and a 'Go' button. A second dropdown menu also shows '--- ALL SCHOOLS ---'. Below the search area, there are several tabs: 'Home', 'Student', 'Certification', 'Payment', 'Reports', 'File Extract', and 'Enrollment Status Ver'. The main content area shows a table with columns: '#', 'Current SSN', 'Last Name', 'First Name', 'Middle Name', 'Enrollment Status', and 'Effective Date'. The table contains 10 rows of data. A red box highlights the 'Enrollment Status' dropdown menu for the first row, which is open and showing options: 'IN SCHOOL', 'DROPPED PROGRAM - ENROLLED', 'DROPPED PROGRAM - NOT ENROLLED', 'GRADUATED', 'IN SCHOOL', 'LESS THAN HALF - TIME ENROLLED', and 'IN SCHOOL'. Another red box highlights the 'Effective Date' field for the first row, which has a calendar icon. The interface also includes a 'Reset' button and a 'Print Roster' button at the bottom.

# Enrollment Verification: MTI

- Each screen will need to be “saved” before navigating to another screen or submitting the data. These options are found at the bottom of the screen.
  - Reset - clear all the entry and begin again.
  - Save - if the enrollment status verification MTI data is only partially completed. A message will display next to the screen title indicating that the data “Saved Successfully”.
  - Submit - to transmit enrollment status verification MTI data. A message will display prompting the user to verify the choice to Review Information or Submit Enrollment data.
    - If you select:
      - Review Information - the user may return to the Enrollment Status Verification screen.
      - Submit Enrollment - an error message may display at the top of the screen identifying that required fields are missing information.
        - Add any missing information and press Save and then Submit Enrollment again.
      - Close - the user will return to the Enrollment Status Verification screen.



# **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

## 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

# Updated GAP User Guide

- We have combined the previous GAP Access User Guides into one.
  - This document is a one-stop-shop to get all the information you need when it comes to using GAP including:
    - An Overview of GAP Access
    - Registering for a GAP Account
    - Activating GAP Access Account
    - Two Factor Authentication
    - Setting User Account Privileges
    - GAP Access User Verification (for Primary Administrators)
- GAP Access User Guide: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/GAP-Access-Portal-User-Guide.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/GAP-Access-Portal-User-Guide.pdf)



# MAP Payment Processing

- Payment Processing for Fall term began August 21, 2025
  - 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.
- Any 2025-26 payment requests that were submitted via FTP prior to August 21, 2025, will not be processed, and will need to be resubmitted by the college.
- Payment Request Deadline date for the Fall term: **December 5, 2025**
- ISAC suspended the announcement of 2025-26 MAP grants for all students whose initial 2025-26 FAFSA or Alternative Application was received on or after June 6, 2025.
- 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)

# 2026-27 MAP Grant Notification Language

In response to feedback from schools indicating that the student notification language was too lengthy, ISAC has revised and condensed the text for clarity and brevity. See below:

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Schools are required to notify all students who are eligible for State of Illinois MAP grant awards, including those students who are only eligible during the second semester or the second and/or third quarter. Schools must clearly identify MAP grant awards on the award notification as: **IL MAP (estimated)**. Schools are also required to include the following language, **exactly as it appears below**, with the award notification.

Continued on the next slide.



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For more information, see our School Requirements page: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/)

# 2026-27 MAP Grant Notification Language cont.

## You may be eligible for a State of Illinois MAP grant.

Because you completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, you are also considered for financial aid from the State of Illinois. You may qualify for a **State of Illinois MAP grant**—financial aid from the State of Illinois that is based on financial need and **does not have to be repaid**. If you are eligible:

- Your financial aid offer from the school includes an estimated amount listed as **IL MAP (estimated)**.
- The amount listed is an **estimate**. The final amount may change depending on how much funding the state provides this year, as well as the number of hours you're enrolled and your other sources of aid.
- MAP grant awards may be received for up to about 4½ years of full-time college.
- You can learn more about the State of Illinois MAP grant and check how many credit hours you have used on the Illinois Student Assistance Commission website: [isac.org/mapgrant](https://isac.org/mapgrant)

## You may also qualify for help with dependent care expenses and food costs.

- Ask your financial aid office if you would benefit from the federal dependent care allowance.
- Call the Illinois Hunger Coalition Hotline at [800.359.2163](tel:800.359.2163) or visit the website at [ilhunger.org](https://ilhunger.org) for information about food assistance.
- Contact the Illinois Department of Human Services at [800.843.6154](tel:800.843.6154) or visit the website [dhs.state.il.us](https://dhs.state.il.us) for information about the Child Care Assistance Program and/or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

# MAP Grant Notification Language: Before & After

## 2025–26

Schools are also required to include the following information with the award notification:

*By applying for financial aid and agreeing to share that information with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) you have been considered for the State of Illinois (IL) Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grant. All MAP-approved institutions are required by the State of Illinois to announce MAP Grant awards to students who are enrolled or intending to enroll at their institution. An award amount is included in your financial aid package if you have met the eligibility criteria.*

*The MAP Grant award amount is an estimate made by the financial aid office and is identified as a "State of IL MAP Grant (Est)". Please be aware that the number of available MAP Grants is limited by funding levels approved by the Illinois General Assembly and the Governor, and reductions to estimated or actual MAP Grants are possible.*

*There are also limitations to how long you can continue to receive a MAP Grant. Usage is tracked by the number of credit hours for which you've received MAP benefits and is referred to as MAP Paid Credit Hours (MPCHs). The maximum number of MPCHs that can be received is 135, which is equivalent to approximately four and a half years of full-time enrollment. For your reference, and to learn more about MPCH limitations, you may access a record of your MPCHs, as well as other student resources, through the ISAC Student Portal at [studentportal.isac.org](http://studentportal.isac.org).*

*Eligibility for the need-based MAP Grant award may indicate that you are eligible for assistance with expenses such as food, housing, or child care for dependent children. If you have dependent care expenses, ask the financial aid office about the federal dependent care allowance. For eligibility and application information about the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) and the [Child Care Assistance Program](#), contact the [Illinois Department of Human Services](#) at **800-843-6154** or [www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us). Contact the [Illinois Hunger Coalition](#) Hunger Hotline at **800-359-2163** or [www.ilhunger.org](http://www.ilhunger.org).*

## 2026–27

**You may be eligible for a State of Illinois MAP grant.**

Because you completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, you are also considered for financial aid from the State of Illinois. You may qualify for a **State of Illinois MAP grant**—financial aid from the State of Illinois that is based on financial need and **does not have to be repaid**. If you are eligible:

- Your financial aid offer from the school includes an estimated amount listed as **IL MAP (estimated)**.
- The amount listed is an **estimate**. The final amount may change depending on how much funding the state provides this year, as well as the number of hours you're enrolled and your other sources of aid.
- MAP grant awards may be received for up to about 4½ years of full-time college.
- You can learn more about the State of Illinois MAP grant and check how many credit hours you have used on the Illinois Student Assistance Commission website: [isac.org/mapgrant](http://isac.org/mapgrant)

**You may also qualify for help with dependent care expenses and food costs.**

- Ask your financial aid office if you would benefit from the federal dependent care allowance.
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- Contact the Illinois Department of Human Services at [800.843.6154](tel:8008436154) or visit the website [dhs.state.il.us](http://dhs.state.il.us) for information about the Child Care Assistance Program and/or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

# MAP Payment Processing

- MAP Quick Links:
  - 2025-26 MAP 160-Byte File Layout Specifications: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/2526-MAP-160byte-File-Layout-Nov2024.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/2526-MAP-160byte-File-Layout-Nov2024.pdf)
  - Eligibility chapter of MAP User Guide: [isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-EligibilityUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf](https://isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-EligibilityUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf)
  - Payment chapter of MAP User Guide: [isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-PaymentUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf](https://isac.org/faas/processes/documents/MAP-PaymentUserGuide-Aug2024.pdf)
  - School Requirements Page: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/)

# 2025-26 Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

## Program News

(last updated August 8, 2025)

[2025-26 Program Funding](#)

[2025-26 Application](#)

[2024-25 Reconciliation – Due to ISAC Notifications](#)

[Enrollment Status Verification](#)

A notice was sent 8/12/2025 informing FAAs and MTI applicants of the current ongoing litigation:

8/12/2025

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) would like to provide an update about the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship for the 2025-2026 academic year. We ask that you do not communicate this update directly to students until ISAC sends students a notification later today.

A notice will be sent at 4:00 p.m. today to MTI applicants informing them that eligibility and awarding decisions for the 2025-2026 academic year will not be made in time for the Fall 2025 academic semester. A copy of that notice appears below.

Please encourage students to visit our website for a [list](#) of other financial aid programs and [www.studentportal.isac.org](http://www.studentportal.isac.org) for additional college-going tools and resources. Students are encouraged to continue seeking additional financial aid resources to fund their educational expenses.

ISAC will keep you informed about all program updates as they become available.

### Notice to MTI applicants:

Thank you for your interest in the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program.

The MTI Scholarship Program is currently being reviewed and is the subject of ongoing litigation filed by the American Alliance for Equal Rights, an organization affiliated with a movement to dismantle affirmative action. As a result, eligibility determinations and awarding decisions for the 2025-2026 academic year will not be made in time for the Fall 2025 academic semester.

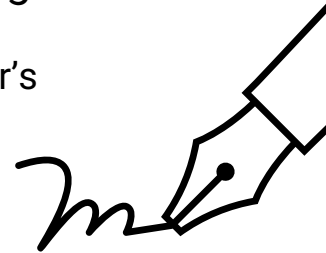
ISAC remains committed to making postsecondary education accessible and affordable for Illinois students and families and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please visit our website for a [list](#) of other financial aid programs and [www.studentportal.isac.org](http://www.studentportal.isac.org) for additional college-going tools and resources.

**Please encourage students to visit our website for a [list](#) of other financial aid programs and [www.studentportal.isac.org](http://www.studentportal.isac.org) for additional college-going tools and resources.** Students are encouraged to continue seeking additional financial aid resources to fund their educational expenses.

*ISAC will keep you informed about all program updates as they become available.*

# Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program

- The *Teachers of Illinois* program is a proposed new scholarship program.
  - It has been approved by the legislature and is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.
- If signed, ISAC will begin developing the application.
  - The program is expected to open for applications in **mid to late December**, pending approval.
- Once the application opens, current MTI applicants will be notified and encouraged to review the eligibility requirements before applying.
- Official program rules and eligibility details will be posted once they are finalized and approved.

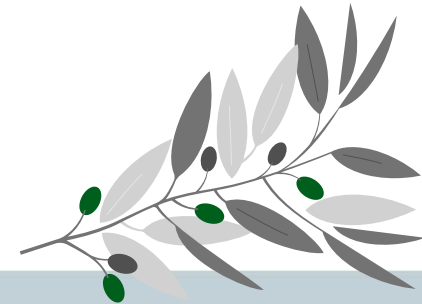


# Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE)

- Colleges have completed the certification process and awarding was completed August 28, 2025.
- Payment opened September 25, 2025.
  - 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

- 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.
- First-term payment requests (i.e., claims) are being accepted.
  - Timely requests must be submitted on or before Wednesday, December 31, 2025.
  - We encourage claims to be submitted as soon as you can do so.

# Golden Apple: Payment Student Detail Screen

- The **Annual Award Amount To Date** is the amount that the Golden Apple Foundation has certified/awarded a student up to the current date.
- The Foundation certifies/awards a student for **ONLY ONE TERM AT A TIME**.
- For example: If we are currently in the Fall term, then the **Annual Award Amount To Date** is reflecting the Fall term amount only, not the entire award year.
- If the same student is then certified/awarded for the Spring term, then the **Annual Award Amount To Date** will increase to reflect the two term amounts combined.

This screen is accessed by clicking on the **dollar sign** icon that is on the same line as the student's last name on the **Student Payment List: View** screen and by selecting the **Payment** tab from the **Student Detail: Eligibility** screen.

GA Student Detail: Payment

Home Student Certification File Upload **Payment** Reports

List Eligibility **Payment**

Current SSN  
 Go

Deferred Scholar  
N

**Annual Award Amount To Date**  
2500.00

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring
School Code		
Request	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Academic Level	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Enrollment Status	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ineligible Reason	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Requested Amount	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
Award Amount		2500.00

# Golden Apple: Payment

When requesting payment from the **Student Detail** screen, there are four required fields:

1. Request

2. Academic Level

3. Enrollment Status

4. Requested Amount

Each of these fields must be completed with the appropriate information for payment requests to be processed properly. If the student is ineligible an *Ineligible Reason* must be selected and a and a zero (\$0) should be entered in the Requested Amount field.

- To adjust the system-calculated annual award amount if necessary)
  - The maximum award amount per regular school year is \$2,500 or \$5,000.
  - **The Golden Apple Foundation certifies recipients' eligibility one term at time. Only the term(s) that have been certified will be available for payment.**
- The amount of each award is determined by the number of years the applicant has been a Golden Apple Scholar (i.e., "Year in Program") rather than the scholar's academic level in college. Award amounts are as follows.

## First & Second Year Maximum Annual Award

\$2,500

**Semester schools:** Receive \$1,250 per term

**Quarter schools:** Receive \$834 for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, \$833 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, & \$833 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

## Third & Fourth Year Maximum Annual Award

\$5,000

**Semester schools:** Receive \$2,500 per term

**Quarter schools:** Receive \$1,667 for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, \$1,667 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, & \$1,666 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

# Golden Apple: Payment

## GA 2025-2026: Student Detail: Payment

Home Student Certification File Upload **Payment** Reports

List Eligibility **Payment**

Current SSN  
 **Go**

Deferred Scholar  
N

Annual Award Amount To Date  
1250.00

**Terms** **1-Fall**

School Code

Request

Academic Level

Enrollment Status

Ineligible Reason

Requested Amount \$

Award Amount 1250.00

To navigate to another student, enter the student's SSN in the **Current SSN** field and click on the **Go** button.

### Request

Payment- request a payment.

**or**

Cancel- to cancel a previously requested award.

Academic Level – select the student's current level.

Enrollment Status – Select either Full time or Half time.

\*Ineligible - to be completed for an ineligible student.  
(See ineligible reasons on the next slide)

Requested Amount – fill in the amount based on the student's year and term.

Click on the **Save Changes** button to save the payment request, or the **Discard Changes** button to discard the payment request.

As a reminder, the payment request process is not complete until the next step of submitting the payment requests to ISAC has been completed using the **Submit Payment Requests** screen.

# Golden Apple: Payment - Ineligible

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring
School Code	001833	001833
Request	Payment <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Academic Level	Freshman <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Enrollment Status	Full time <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Ineligible Reason	<input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Requested Amount		\$ <input type="text"/>
Award Amount		\$ <input type="text"/>

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

## GA Ineligible Reasons

Select the appropriate reason that makes student ineligible.

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

\* If an Ineligible request is submitted, all payment for the term will be canceled, unless it is for the reason "Not enrolled" or "Not enrolled at least half time" in Semester 1 or Quarter 1 or 2.

# Golden Apple: Payment – Submitting Payment

- The Submit Payment Requests screen allows the user to submit payment requests to ISAC for processing. The user can specify which payment request records will be submitted based on Term selected.
- This screen is accessed by selecting the Submit Payment Requests tab. After payment requests have been submitted by clicking on the Submit button a message will be displayed indicating how many payment requests were submitted.
- To submit payment requests to ISAC for GA payment follow these steps:
  - Choose the Term for which the request is being made from the drop-down menu.
  - Click on the Submit button to submit the payment request.
  - Ensure that a submission message is received and make note of the number of records submitted.

School Administration Programs

## GA Submit Payment Requests

Home Student Payment Reports

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

Payment Submitted for 2 records

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term 1-Fall

Submit Reset

# Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- Scholarships have been awarded
- Payment opened September 25, 2025.
- Scholarships were first awarded to renewal applicants who continued to meet all the program's eligibility requirements
  - An applicant is considered a renewal applicant for the program if they received NES funds during the previous academic program
- After all qualified renewal applicants have been awarded, then awards are made to eligible new applicants according to the degree type being sought.
  - NES Award Determination: [isac.org/ isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/awarding.html](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/awarding.html)

# Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- ISAC is accepting benefit usage data for the 2025-26 ING Grant fall term.
- Timely submission for fall claims:
  - Must be submitted **on or before, December 31, 2025.**
- 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.
- Aug 21 e-message: [isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821.html)

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- ISAC is accepting benefit usage data for the 2025-26 IVG summer and fall terms.
  - Timely submission:
    - Summer term - on or before **September 30, 2025**
    - Fall term - on or before **December 31, 2025**
- Reminders:
  - 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.
- Aug 21 e-message: [isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0821.html)

# 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
- 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/)

# SWSP Certification List: View

To complete a certification record for an applicant, navigate to the **Certification List: View** screen:

- Click on an individual student's name or SSN to open the **Certification Data** screen for the student.
- Enter the required data and then click on the **Save/Submit** button
- The **Save/Submit** button will not be enabled until data has been provided for **ALL** required fields.
- Or, to exit without saving and submitting, click on the **Close** button.

## SWSP 2025-2026: Certification List: View

Home Student **Certification** Payment Reports

List Filter

Entries displayed 100 ▾

#	Current SSN	Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth
1	xxx-xx-			
2	xxx-xx-			

### Certification Data

ASH-BURCH, KYLE

A valid Illinois Social Work License or Clinical Social Work License is a program eligibility requirement. If the applicant does not hold one of the required licenses, set the "Eligible" field to No and select the applicable Ineligible Reason.

The scholarship is applicable only toward tuition and mandatory fees.

Eligible:

Anticipated Term(s):

Term 1 Eligible Amount:

Term 2 Eligible Amount:

Term 3 Eligible Amount:

Anticipated Date of Program Completion:

Ineligible Reason:

Save/Submit

Close

# 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 be 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.
- Screenshots and updates will be provided in our webinar once this program becomes available in GAP.
  - We will update you once the school view is available.

# 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 is 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.

# ISAC Rules: Process

## First Notice

The proposed rulemaking process officially begins when a proposed rule is published in the Illinois Register and public comment begins - sometimes JCAR will require the agency to hold a public hearing.

## Second Notice

When an agency is ready to submit a rulemaking for JCAR review, it files second notice documents, and the rulemaking is scheduled for a JCAR meeting within the next 45 days.

## JCAR Action

During the once monthly meeting, the JCAR commissioners take action on the proposed rules.

## Adoption

Once an agency receives a certificate of no objection, or duly responds to an objection within 90 days, it may adopt the rulemaking with any second notice changes to which the agency and JCAR have agreed during the review process.

# ISAC Rules: 2024-25 – Adopted

- 2024-25 rules are adopted and awaiting finalization.
  - ISAC’s four adopted rules were published in the Illinois Register (Volume 49, Issue 44) on October 31, 2025. The full text is found at :
    - [ilsos.gov/content/dam/departments/index/register/volume49/register\\_volume49\\_44.pdf](https://ilsos.gov/content/dam/departments/index/register/volume49/register_volume49_44.pdf)
- Summaries of the changes are as follows:
  - **Part 2700: General Provisions** – Changes primarily involve revised definitions and small wording adjustments to clarify existing provisions without altering their intent. Proof of residency no longer includes tax returns or tax documents.
  - **Part 2730: Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant Program** – Clarifies the priority claim dates for submission of payment requests.
  - **Part 2735: Monetary Award Program (MAP)** – Changes primarily involve revised definitions and small wording adjustments to clarify existing provisions without altering their intent.
  - **Part 2751: Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program** – New part. Promulgates the rules for the 2024-25 ECACE program.

# ISAC Rules: 2025-26 – Public Comment

- ISAC’s seven proposed rules were published in the Illinois Register (Volume 49, Issue 42) on October 17, 2025.
  - This began the 45-day public comment period. The 25-26 Rules will be presented as an agenda item at the December 2025 Commission meeting.
    - The full text of these rules can be found at :  
[ilsos.gov/content/dam/departments/index/register/volume49/register\\_volume49\\_42.pdf](https://ilsos.gov/content/dam/departments/index/register/volume49/register_volume49_42.pdf)
- Summaries of the changes are as follows:
  - **Part 2743: Grant Program for Exonerees** – Updated to add allowances for dependents of exonerees to receive benefits.
  - **Part 2749: Nursing Education Scholarship** – Updating the sections in the Part, removing redundancies and consolidating language for easier readability.
  - **Part 2750: Illinois Graduate and Retain our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program** – Updates applicant eligibility criteria pertaining to academic performance and clarifying definitions.

# ISAC Rules: 2025-26 – Public Comment

- Summaries of the changes cont.:
  - **Part 2752: Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program** – Updated to add a definition of a human services agency and to clarify the employment eligibility at time of application.
  - **Part 2753: Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program** – Updated to add a definition of behavioral health professional and to update applicant eligibility criteria.
  - **Part 2755: Journalism Student Scholarship Program** – New part.
  - **Part 2776: Workforce Development Through Charitable Loan Repayment Program** - New part.
- ISAC has a new Agency Rules Coordinator, Sarah Dulay. Please submit official comments to:

**Sarah Dulay**

Agency Rules Coordinator



847-831-6757



[sarah.dulay@illinois.gov](mailto:sarah.dulay@illinois.gov)

- **Please note that comments on these rules will be part of the public record.**

# ISAC Rules: 2026-27 – Proposed Revisions

- ISAC is compiling its agenda for rules items for the 2026-27 academic year and will provide additional details when available. Preliminarily, ISAC anticipates proposing changes to the following rules:
  - **Part 2700:** General Provisions
  - **Part 2730:** Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant Program
  - **Part 2735:** Monetary Award Program (MAP)
  - **Part 2743:** Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program
  - **Part 2760:** State Scholar Program
  - **Part 2763:** Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program
  - **Part 5375:** Public Information, Rulemaking and Organization

# Rules Process – Resources

- For updates on rules, see our e-messages:
  - [isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/index.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/index.html)
  - To sign up for e-messaging: [isac.org/emessaging/](https://isac.org/emessaging/)
- [JCAR Home](#)
- [Illinois Register](#)
- [Administrative Code and Codification Indexes](#)

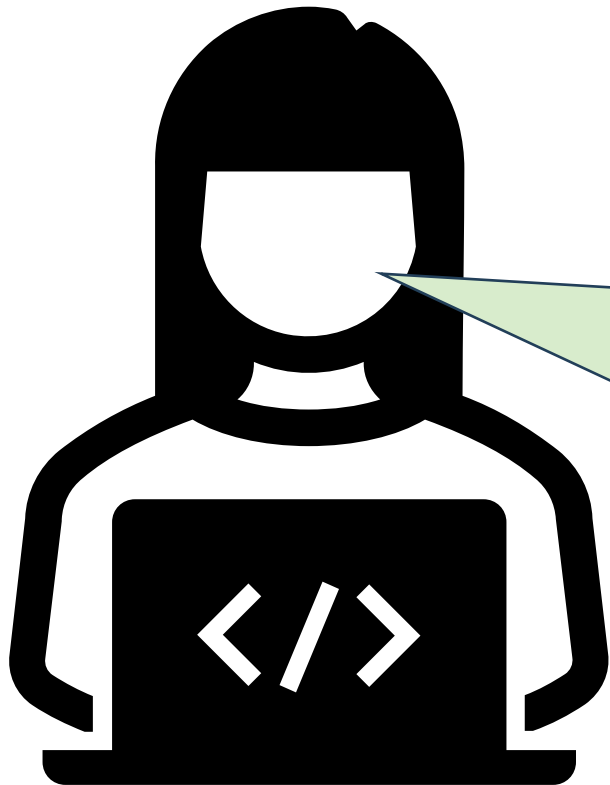
# **2026-27 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2027**

# 2026-27 MAP Start-Up Formula

## Start-Up Formula

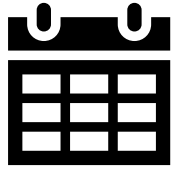
- On September 18, 2025, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission approved the 2026-27 (FY27) MAP start-up formula, which follows the FY26 recompute formula.
- Following the FY26 recompute formula, the following is being used in the start-up formula for 2026-27 MAP grants:
  - **2021-22 reported tuition 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).**
- As was the case with FY26 recompute formula, and as necessitated by FAFSA Simplification, the 2026-27 MAP start-up formula mirrors the federal methodology that allows students with a negative or zero Student Aid Index (SAI) to receive the same maximum Pell amount.
- 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.

# 2026-27 Alternative Application



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

# Important Dates & Contact Information



# ISAC Calendar

## Webinars - Monthly Program & Operational Update

**December** 

**17<sup>th</sup>**

@ 2 p.m.

**January**


**28<sup>th</sup>**

@ 2 p.m.

**February**


**25<sup>th</sup>**

@ 2 p.m.

 Date moved from last Wednesday of the month to accommodate holidays.

# 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!