

# ISAC Operational Update and Program News

September 24, 2025



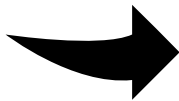
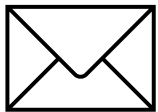
# Agenda

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

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

# Year-End Close Out

- Debit letters for the 2024-25 ISAC programs have been sent to Financial Aid Directors.
  - These are sent to institutions that have an outstanding amount due to ISAC for one or more of these programs.
  - The letter provides a summary of the total amount due to ISAC for each program.
  - All refund checks should be made payable to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.
    - Refund checks should be accompanied by a Gift Assistance Programs Check Return Form and the specific term(s) and program(s) for each refund must be identified.
    - Please do not send refund checks to ISAC without providing the appropriate adjustment data.
- Funds are due to ISAC by **September 30, 2025**.
- The address to send checks and the Check Return Form to is:



Illinois Student Assistance Commission  
Attn: Cash Receipts  
1755 Lake Cook Rd  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209

- Questions may be directed to ISAC's Partner Services Department:



866-247-2172



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



1755 Lake Cook Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209  
800.247.2172  
isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov

**GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
REFUND CHECK FORM**

Please report the dollar amount refunded for each program/year if submitting a single check with funds for **multiple** programs or academic years.

Mail Refund Checks to: Illinois Student Assistance Commission  
Attn: Cash Receipts  
1755 Lake Cook Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209  
**Payable to:** Illinois Student Assistance Commission

To ensure refunds are credited to the correct account (both school and/or student) and the appropriate ISAC gift assistance program, please complete the requested information below.

DATE SENT TO ISAC	
SCHOOL NAME	
MAP CODE /ED CODE/IVG CODE	
PROGRAM(S)	
ACADEMIC YEAR(S)	
VOUCHER NUMBER <small>(specific to the above academic year)</small>	
TERM(S)	
CHECK NUMBER	
CHECK DOLLAR AMOUNT	\$
<b>REASON FOR REFUND</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Returning Amount Due at End of Year: Per ISAC's letter indicating total amount owed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Current and/or Prior Year Refund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the students' names and Social Security numbers (last 4-digits);</li> <li>• Indicate actual credit hours enrolled;</li> <li>• List dollar amount refunded for each term; and</li> <li>• State the institution's reason for the refund.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	External Compliance: ISAC's Finance & Accounting Division will forward a copy of the Final Program Review Report to the appropriate internal department.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Refund: Provide Explanation

ISAC #3247 08/25 (0N3247) Web 8/25)

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

**Refunds and Unpaid Claims**

Upon receipt of disbursements, schools must verify each recipient's enrollment status for the term for which payment was made. When it is becomes necessary for schools to return scholarship and grant program funds to ISAC, it must be done in a timely manner. A [Gift Assistance Refund Check Form](#) must also be completed and submitted along with the payment.

In regard to unpaid claims, schools or students can seek recourse at the end of the year through the Court of Claims. Appropriate documentation must accompany all claim forms. All correspondence must be written, and filing a claim does not guarantee payment. As of July 1, 2000, there is a two-year time limit to file Court of Claims.

**Returning Program Funds to ISAC**

When it is necessary for schools to return scholarship and grant program funds to ISAC, a [Gift Assistance Refund Check Form](#) must be completed and submitted along with the payment. The form:

- provides information about program funds being returned;
- ensures that refunds are credited to the proper account (both school and/or student), program, and academic year; and
- in situations where the school checks the box "current and/or prior year refund," asks that a list of student names and SSNs (last 4 digits) for whom payment is being returned be attached.

If additional information needs to be provided to ISAC by the college, a [Gift Assistance Programs Refund Check Explanation Form \(Excel spreadsheet\)](#) may be completed and included with the Refund Check Form.

For programs to which [payment offset and reconciliation](#) procedures apply, ISAC will continue to offset funds from future payments to the school for awards that are cancelled or reduced during the academic year.

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

Illinois Student Assistance Commission  
Attn: Cash Receipts  
1755 Lake Cook Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209

- MAP Electronic Processing
- MAP Advising Data Collection
- MPCH Adjustments (COVID: Spring 2020)
- NON-MAP Programs Adjustments (COVID: Spring 2020)
- ING Grant Electronic Processing
- IVG Electronic Processing
- ECACE Electronic Processing
- GA Electronic Processing
- MTI Electronic Processing
- NES Electronic Processing
- Social Work Scholarship Program Electronic Processing
- SETTW Electronic Processing
- Gift Assistance Budget Instructions
- External Compliance Program Review
- State Comptroller's Website
- Refunds And Unpaid Claims**
- Returning Program Funds To ISAC
- Court Of Claims
- Payment Offset And Reconciliation

# **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

# 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)

# 2025-26 MAP FAFSA Processing Date Question

- We have recently received questions concerning students that submitted their FAFSA application June 5<sup>th</sup> late in the evening and were marked as having June 6<sup>th</sup> processing dates.
- **This is still considered past the suspense date.** The applications needed to be fully submitted and processed by June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **The suspense date cannot be appealed and will only change if there is funding available.**
  - The MAP award will be considered in suspense & the applicant will be marked as “S” in GAP.
  - Colleges should proceed to use their typical policies and procedures to communicate information to students with suspended awards.
- For more information on MAP, see our Webinar: MAP Policies & Procedures from August 12, 2025

[isac.org/e-library/partner-training/index.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-training/index.html)

# MAP Payment Processing: Dependent Residency Override

**Term 1**

MAP Code: 064

Request: [Dropdown]

Enrollment Hours: [Input]

Short-Term Certificate Program:

Request Amount Override: \$4,200.00

Current Eligible Amount: \$4,200.00

Original Eligible Amount: \$4,200.00

User Defined: [Input]

**Dependent Residency Override**:

NSLDS Override: [Input]

**GAP:** Checking the box will override the MAP disqualify code that will appear in the MAP system for dependent students whose parent contributor does not report Illinois as their state of residence on the FAFSA.

2024-25 MAP 160 Byte File Layout Specifications

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

Position	Start	End	Data Element	Type (Length)	School to ISAC		
					Payment or Cancellation Request	Elig File	Payment Results
					MAP Only	MAP	MAP
<b>160 Byte Format</b>							
1	3	1	Applicable MAP School Code	9(03)	X	X	X
4	4	2	Record Type	X(01)	4	7	5 / 6
5	5	3	Term Enrolled	9(01)	=1, 2, or 3		=1, 2, or 3
6	7	4	College Year	9(02)	25	25	25
8	8	5	Payment Request Code (valid values = P or C)	X(01)	X		X
9	14	6	Title IV School Code	X(06)	X	X	X
15	50	7	Person UIUID	X(26)	X	X	X
51	53	8	Filler	X(03)			
54	54	9	User Defined	X(01)			
55	61	10	Requested Award Amount for Term	9(05)V99	X		X
62	62	11	ING Certified	X(01)			
63	64	12	Transaction Number	9(02)	X		X
65	65	13	Continuing Student	X(01)		X	X
66	66	14	Paid Previous Year	X(01)		X*	X
67	67	15	Dependent Residency Override	X(01)	Opt*		
68	68	16	Payment Result Code	X(01)			X
69	75	17	Payment Results Amount Paid for Term	9(05)V99			X
76	82	18	Adjusted Amt from Previous Payment Results	S9(05)V99			X

**FTP:** Field #15 on the FTP file may be used to provide a Dependent Residency Override. The field should be populated with a Y as part of the payment request process.

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term: 1


User Defined: [Input]

- Include Ineligible
  - MAP Paid Credit Hours >= 135
  - Default
  - Late
  - MAP Suspend
  - Disqualify

**Submitting Payment:** Because the student record has a Disqualify code of 1, the school will also need to check the checkboxes for "Include Ineligible" and "Disqualify" when submitting payment requests.

# MAP Student Detail: Payment Processing: Certificate Programs

- There is an indicator in the MAP system for schools to use to identify students who are receiving MAP due to enrollment in a Short-Term Certificate Program at a public institution.
- To request payment for a student in an eligible certificate program, schools should report the number of credit-based hours in which the student is enrolled for the term.
  - If the student is enrolled in additional coursework, the number of enrollment hours reported should be the combination of the certificate program hours and other coursework the student may be enrolled in.
  - The certificate box should be checked even if the hours are mixed (a combination of traditional and certificate program courses).
  - Help text is provided to clarify when the indicator should be checked.
- For payment requests submitted via FTP, a “Y” indicator should be provided in Field #21 in the FTP file, per the file specifications.



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

# Payment Processing: Certificate Programs

If requesting payment in the MAP system in GAP Access, the indicator can be provided on the:

- 1 **Student Payment Detail screen** - for individual reporting
- 2 **Input Enrollment screen** – for batch reporting, will apply to all students entered on the screen
- 3 **Payment Generation screen** – for batch processing, will apply to all students selected (and saved) on the Student Payment list.

Term	Term 1	Term 2
MAP Code	001	001
Request	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Enrollment Hours	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Short-Term Certificate Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Request Amount Override	\$4,032.00	\$4,032.00
Current Eligible Amount	\$4,032.00	\$4,032.00
Original Eligible Amount	\$4,032.00	\$4,032.00
User Defined	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dependent Residency Override	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NSLDS Override	NSLDS Override	NSLDS Override
Transaction #	01	01
Activity Date		
Status		
Results		
Expanded Reject Reason		
Invoice #		
Transaction #		
MAP Code		
Results		
Amount Paid		
Adjusted Amount		
Payment Result Date		

1

Home Student **Payment** Budget Reports File Extractions

List Filter Sort Columns Input Student Enrollment Hours **Payment Generation** Submit Payment Requests

Term: 1  
 MAP Code: 001  
 Request: Payment  
 Enrollment Hours:   
 Short-Term Certificate Program:  ?  
 User Defined:

3

Home Student **Payment** Budget Reports File Extractions

List Filter Sort Columns **Input Student Enrollment Hours** Payment Generation Submit Payment Requests

Term: 1 MAP Code: 001 Request: Payment Short-Term Certificate Program:  ? User Defined:

Student SSN	Tran #	Enr Hrs	Dep Res Ovr	Student SSN	Tran #	Enr Hrs	Dep Res Ovr
1			<input type="checkbox"/>	11			<input type="checkbox"/>
2			<input type="checkbox"/>	12			<input type="checkbox"/>
3			<input type="checkbox"/>	13			<input type="checkbox"/>
4			<input type="checkbox"/>	14			<input type="checkbox"/>
5			<input type="checkbox"/>	15			<input type="checkbox"/>
6			<input type="checkbox"/>	16			<input type="checkbox"/>
7			<input type="checkbox"/>	17			<input type="checkbox"/>
8			<input type="checkbox"/>	18			<input type="checkbox"/>
9			<input type="checkbox"/>	19			<input type="checkbox"/>
10			<input type="checkbox"/>	20			<input type="checkbox"/>

2

# MAP Payment Processing Reminders

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

# MAP Payment Processing Reminders

- MAP payment requests are expected to be submitted on correct ISIR transactions
- Based on MAP rules and ISAC's operational procedures:
  - Colleges are expected to notify students if, as the result of a reprocessed ISIR, a student's MAP award amount changes or a student loses eligibility
  - Institutions are expected to communicate changes and adjustments to the student
  - A student's MAP claim should be submitted to ISAC on a valid, correct ISIR
  - This guidance applies not just to ISIRs reprocessed by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), but for any subsequent ISIR transactions generated due to school or student corrections throughout the award year
    - MAP Award Announcements
      - [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-award-announcements/)

## Monetary Award Program (MAP)

### Program News

*(last updated August 21, 2025)*

[MAP Advising Data Collection](#)

[2025-26 Program Funding](#)

[2025-26 Payment](#)

[2025-26 Recompute Formula](#)

[Suspension of 2025-26 Award Announcements](#)

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

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

[2025-26 Award Announcements](#)

[2025-26 File Layout Specifications](#)

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

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

[Additional MAP References](#)

## MAP Payment

[Enrollment Guidelines](#)

[Eligible Coursework](#)

[MAP Payment Offset & Reconciliation](#)

MAP grants are paid directly to the approved institution of record which certified the applicant's eligibility. ISAC authorizes a voucher in the amount of the payment claim and submits it to the State Comptroller's Office which issues payment to the institution. Schools may begin requesting payments for MAP 10 days before the beginning of the semester. Payment of grant benefits is requested by the school through ISAC and sent by the State Comptroller directly to the institution.

Schools receive award announcements via the MAP system on all SAR transactions, which assume full-time enrollment. When students enroll less than full time, payment adjustments are based on the most recently announced award.

### Enrollment Guidelines

Students must be enrolled during the term to receive MAP funds, and must be enrolled for the equivalent of at least 15 credit hours to receive the maximum award amount for which they qualify each term. The school certifies an applicant's eligibility according to the information available when MAP payment is requested. If a student's credit hour enrollment decreases, the school can only request payment up to the amount of actual tuition and fee expenses incurred. If a student withdraws after the expiration of the tuition refund/withdrawal adjustment period, the student may receive MAP payment for tuition and fees incurred up to the term award provided the school's tuition refund policy indicates the student has incurred charges in the amount of the claim.

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

Program Overview

Applying

Suspense

Eligibility

Award Announcements

Formula

MAP Paid Credit Hours

Special Enrollment Circumstances

Budget Reporting

Payment

2025-26 MAP Payment

2025-26 MAP Payment Request  
Deadlines

MAP Payment User Guide

MAP File Specifications

MAP Payment Offset And  
Reconciliation

State Comptroller

# MAP Payment Processing

- MAP User Guides:
  - 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)

# 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.*

# Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE)

- Colleges have completed the certification process and awarding was completed August 28, 2025.
  - Renewal and new applicants were awarded, and award notifications are being delivered to those students by ISAC.
  - A notice of Insufficient Funding will be sent to eligible students unable to receive an award due to funding limitations.
- 2025-26 eligible award information may be accessed via the GAP ECACE system.
  - Results can be viewed on the “Student List Eligibility: View” screen.
- See August 28 e-message: [isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0828.html](https://isac.org/e-library/partner-e-messages-and-newsletters/faa-e-messages/eLibrary-FAA-2025-0828.html)

# ECACE Payment Process

- Payment is expected to open this week.
- 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 Payment Process

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

# ECACE Student Payment: View Screen

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

**ECACE 2025-2026: Student Payment List: View**

Select School and School Code:

Home Application Student Certification **Payment** Reports

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

Entries displayed: 100

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

# ECACE Student Payment: View Screen

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

The screenshot shows the 'ECACE 2025-2026: Student Detail: Payments' interface. It includes a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Application', 'Student', 'Certification', 'Payment', and 'Reports'. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with 'List', 'Eligibility', and 'Payment' (highlighted in green). A search section contains a 'Current SSN' input field with a 'Go' button and an 'Annual Award Amount' of '7500.00'. The main area features a table with columns for 'Terms', '1-Fall', and '2-Spring'. The table rows include 'School Code', 'Request', 'Enrollment Status', 'Academic Level', 'Program/Degree Pathway', 'Ineligible Reason', and 'Requested Amount'. A dropdown menu is open for the 'Request' field, showing options: 'Associate of Applied Science', 'Associate Transfer Degree', 'Bachelor's Degree', and 'Certificate'. Another dropdown menu is open for the 'Ineligible Reason' field, showing a list of reasons such as 'Not enrolled this term', 'Not a US citizen/eligible non-citizen', 'Not a HS grad/no GED', 'Defaulted student loan', 'Not pursuing an early childhood education major', 'Not making satisfactory academic progress', 'Enrolled less than 3 credit hours', 'Student is not accepting ECACE Scholarship', and 'No remaining unmet cost'. A yellow callout box titled 'Select:' lists four options: 'Payment' (to request a payment), 'Cancel' (to cancel a previously requested award), 'Ineligible' (to be completed for students who are ineligible), and 'Delete' (to remove payment request before submitting). A second yellow callout box lists six criteria: 'Enrollment Status' (Full time, Half time, at least 3 credit hrs), 'Academic Level' (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior), 'Program/Degree Pathway', 'Ineligible Reason', and 'Requested Amount' (enter dollar amount). Red arrows point from the 'Request' dropdown in the table to the 'Select:' callout, and from the 'Ineligible Reason' dropdown to the second callout.

Select:

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

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

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

Associate of Applied Science  
Associate Transfer Degree  
Bachelor's Degree  
Certificate

Not enrolled this term  
Not a US citizen/eligible non-citizen  
Not a HS grad/no GED  
Defaulted student loan  
Not pursuing an early childhood education major  
Not making satisfactory academic progress  
Enrolled less than 3 credit hours  
Student is not accepting ECACE Scholarship  
No remaining unmet cost

# ECACE Ineligible Reasons

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

# ECACE Submit Payment Request Screen

- The Submit Payment Requests screen allows you to submit payment requests to ISAC for processing
- The payment request records will be submitted based on the Term selected
- After payment requests have been submitted by clicking on the Submit button, a message will be displayed indicating how many payment requests were submitted
- ECACE User Guide: [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide-Oct2024.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/ECACE-User-Guide-Oct2024.pdf)

ECACE 2025-2026: Submit Payment Requests

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports

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

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term 1-Fall

Submit Reset

# Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- Functionality to certify eligibility for 2025-26 Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program newly-awarded students – as well as transfer students – 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, with instructions to 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](#).


# SETTW Certification - Eligible

**To certify a student as eligible, Y is selected.** Here are the steps to certify a student as eligible:

1. Select Y from the Certified column.
2. The Academic Level column will be activated, and you must then select the appropriate option to complete the certification for a student record.
3. After you've certified the record(s), click on the Save/Submit button at the bottom of the page. Once you've saved your entries, they are considered submitted and certification is complete.

SSN	Last Name	First Name	School Code	Dual Awarded MTI	Dual Awarded GA	Certified	Academic Level	Disqualified Reason	Transfer Indicator	Transfer Start Term
XXX-XX-	🔒					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">1. <input type="text" value="- Select -"/> <input type="text" value="- Select -"/> <input type="text" value="Y"/> <input type="text" value="N"/></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2. <input type="text" value="- Select -"/> <input type="text" value="Freshman"/> <input type="text" value="Sophomore"/> <input type="text" value="Junior"/> <input type="text" value="Senior"/> <input type="text" value="Graduate"/></div>	<input type="text" value="- Select -"/>		
XXX-XX-	🔒					<input type="text" value="Y"/>	<input type="text" value="Freshman"/>	<input type="text" value="- Select -"/>		

3.



Double check that all information is correct for all students, then click Save/Submit.

⏪ 1 ⏩

View Report Excel Report Save/Submit

# SETTW Certification - Ineligible

**To certify that a student is ineligible, N is selected.** Here are the steps to certify a student as ineligible:

1. Select N from the Certified column.
2. The Disqualified Reason information box will be activated, and you will need to provide the reason for the student's ineligibility by choosing the appropriate option from the drop-down list (see next slide for full list).
3. After you've certified the record(s), click on the Save/Submit button at the bottom of the page. Once you've saved your entries, they are considered submitted and certification is complete.

The screenshot displays a web application interface for SETTW certification. It features a table with columns: SSN, Last Name, First Name, School Code, Dual Awarded MTI, Dual Awarded GA, Certified, Academic Level, Disqualified Reason, Transfer Indicator, and Transfer Start Term. The 'Certified' column for the first row is set to 'N'. A dropdown menu for 'Disqualified Reason' is open, showing options such as 'The recipient did not enroll within ten days after the beginning of the term for which ISAC had initially awarded the waiver' and 'Recipient is not an Illinois resident'. A callout box with a checkmark and the text 'Double check that all information is correct for all students, then click Save/Submit.' points to the 'Save/Submit' button at the bottom of the page. The button is highlighted with a red box.

SSN	Last Name	First Name	School Code	Dual Awarded MTI	Dual Awarded GA	Certified	Academic Level	Disqualified Reason	Transfer Indicator	Transfer Start Term
XXXX-XX-						N	- Select -	- Select -		
XXXX-XX-						- Select -				
XXXX-XX-								The recipient did not enroll within ten days after the beginning of the term for which ISAC had initially awarded the waiver		
XXXX-XX-								The recipient is enrolled at this school but is not seeking an initial special education teacher licensure		
XXXX-XX-								The recipient accepted the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program or the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program rather than the SETTW		
XXXX-XX-								Recipient declined the tuition waiver		
XXXX-XX-								Recipient is not an Illinois resident		
XXXX-XX-								Recipient is not a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen		
XXXX-XX-								Recipient is not making satisfactory academic progress		
XXXX-XX-								Recipient is in default on a student loan, or owes a refund on any state or federal grant		

SSN: XXXX-XX-    Last Name:    First Name:    School Code:    Dual Awarded MTI:    Dual Awarded GA:    Certified: N    Academic Level: - Select -    Disqualified Reason: - Select -

SSN: XXXX-XX-    Last Name:    First Name:    School Code:    Dual Awarded MTI:    Dual Awarded GA:    Certified: N    Academic Level: - Select -    Disqualified Reason: Recipient is not an Illinois re

3. Double check that all information is correct for all students, then click Save/Submit.

View Report    Excel Report    Save/Submit

- Select -

The recipient did not enroll within ten days after the beginning of the term for which ISAC had initially awarded the waiver

The recipient is enrolled at this school but is not seeking an initial special education teacher licensure

The recipient accepted the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program or the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program rather than the SETTW

Recipient declined the tuition waiver

Recipient is not an Illinois resident

Recipient is not a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen

Recipient is not making satisfactory academic progress

Recipient is in default on a student loan, or owes a refund on any state or federal grant

- The recipient did not enroll within ten days after the beginning of the term for which ISAC had initially awarded the waiver
- The recipient is enrolled at this school but is not seeking an initial special education teacher licensure
- The recipient accepted the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program or the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program rather than the SETTW Program
- Recipient declined the tuition waiver
- Recipient is not an Illinois resident
- Recipient is not a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Recipient is not making satisfactory academic progress
- Recipient is in default on a student loan, or owes a refund on any state or federal grant

# 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).
- Once ISAC receives student eligibility information from the Foundation, we will load it into GAP Access and open the system for payment processing.
- The Annual Award field in the GA system shows the Annual Award Amount To Date.
  - The Golden Apple Foundation only certifies/awards a student for one term at a time.
  - **For example:** If it is the beginning of the Fall term, the 'Annual Award Amount To Date' is reflecting the Fall term amount only, not the entire year award.
  - If the same student is certified/awarded for Spring, you will see an increase in the 'Annual Award Amount To Date' to include the Spring award.
- Watch the FAA Message Board and for an e-Message announcement once the Fall term payment processing begins.

# Dual-Awarding Students Eligible for SETTW & Golden Apple.

- If a student qualifies for SETTW & Golden Apple, the student must choose which program they would like to use.
  - A student cannot receive the benefits of two programs in the same award year.
  - ISAC will send the student a letter asking them to choose which program they want to accept.
  - These letters include a deadline date to return the form.
- If a student decides to change which program benefit, he/she wants to receive:
  - First confirm that the student has been awarded the other program before cancelling a payment request/claim that may have already been made.
    - For example, make sure that the student was awarded funds for SETTW before cancelling a payment request for Golden Apple.
- Program teaching obligations:
  - SETTW requires two-year teaching commitment.
  - Golden Apple requires a five-year teaching commitment.
  - These programs will convert to a loan that the student must repay if the teaching commitment is not met.
- Schools can find more information on these programs on ISAC's website in the FAA area, the Administrative Rules, and the User Guides:
  - [isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/index.html](https://isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/index.html)
  - [isac.org/gap-access/#guide](https://isac.org/gap-access/#guide)

# Two Ways to View Dual-Awarded Students

1

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

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

## SETTW 2025-2026: Student List Eligibility: View


Home Student Certification Enrollment Status Verification

List Filter Sort Columns

Entries displayed 100

#	Sel	SSN	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	DOB	Default	School Code	Application Received Date	Application Complete	Applicant Category	Certified Eligible	Certified Date	Award Category	Award Date	Dual Awarded MTI	Dual Awarded GA	Awarded
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	xxx-xx					N		02/10/2025	Y	Timely	N	08/13/2025	Prior HS				
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	xxx-xx					N		03/14/2025	Y	Untimely						Y	

2

- Click the  icon
- This will take you to the **Student Detail: Eligibility screen**
- Scroll down to view if the student was also awarded GA

## SETTW 2025-2026: Student Detail: Eligibility

Home Student Certification Enrollment Status Verification

List Eligibility Application Update Student Update School Update Certification Update

Person Details

Person Details

Certification

School Code	Term	Certified	Certified Date	Academic Level	Disqualification Reason
001854	1				

Eligibility

Application Received Date  
04/01/2025

Application Entered By  
Profile

Application Complete  
Y

Applicant Category  
Untimely

Application Withdrawn Date  
---

Last Update  
04/01/2025

Default  
N

Residence  
Y

Citizenship  
U.S. Citizen

Dual Awarded MTI  
---

Dual Awarded GA  
---

Citizenship  
U.S. Citizen

Dual Awarded MTI  
---

Dual Awarded GA  
---

# Sort to View Dual-Awarded Students

**1** Click the “Dual Awarded GA” & “Dual Awarded MTI” categories

**2** Click the right arrow to add these categories to “Selected”

**3** Click the “Dual Awarded GA” & “Dual Awarded MTI” categories to sort by descending.

**4** Click “List” to view.

SETTW 2025-2026: Student Eligibility List: Sort

Home Student Certification Enrollment Status Verification

List Filter **Sort** Columns

**Unselected**

- Academic Level
- Applicant Category
- Application Complete
- Application Received Date
- Application Withdrawn
- Award Category
- Award Date
- Award Decline
- Awarded
- Awarded Prior
- Certified Date
- Certified Eligible
- Citizenship
- DOB
- Default
- Disqualified Reason
- Highest Test Score
- Middle Initial
- Residency
- School Code

**Selected**

- Last Name
- First Name

**1**  Dual Awarded GA  
 Dual Awarded MTI

**2** →

**3** Selected

- Last Name
- First Name
- Dual Awarded GA
- Dual Awarded MTI

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

↑  
↓  
↕

**4** List

# Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- Scholarships have been awarded
- Payment is expected to open this week.
- 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)
- If a recipient completed a certificate, diploma or degree program for which they received scholarship assistance, and they are now pursuing a higher level of education:
  - They will be considered a new applicant, and
  - Their maximum available years of assistance will be based on the maximum for the new degree being sought.
    - For example, a recipient now pursuing a baccalaureate degree after receiving assistance for an associate degree; the number of years of assistance previously received do not count toward the new maximum.

# Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

The certificate, diploma or degree being pursued by the student determines the NES maximum award amount and the maximum number of years the award may be received, and award amounts differ by type of college.

The 2025-26 NES maximum annual award amount is either \$9,117 or \$18,574.

<b>\$9,117 Maximum Award</b>	<b>\$18,574 Maximum Award</b>
<b>certificate in practical nursing</b> <i>* any school type</i> <i>* one year of assistance</i>	<b>associate degree in nursing</b> <i>* two-year private colleges or four-year colleges/universities</i> <i>* two years of assistance</i>
<b>associate degree in nursing</b> <i>* community colleges or nursing schools</i> <i>* two years of assistance</i>	<b>baccalaureate degree in nursing</b> <i>* four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools</i> <i>* four years of assistance</i>
<b>hospital-based diploma in nursing</b> <i>* community colleges</i> <i>* three years of assistance</i>	<b>graduate degree in nursing</b> <i>* four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools</i> <i>* five years of assistance</i>
	<b>graduate degree in nursing to become a nurse educator</b> <i>* four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools</i> <i>* three years of assistance</i>

# NES Payment Request Screen

**NESP Student Detail: Payments**

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports

List **Payment**

Current SSN  **Go**

Annual Award Amount

**Payment**  
Cancel  
Ineligible  
Delete

Select:  
**Payment** – to request a payment  
**Cancel** – to cancel a previously requested award  
**Ineligible** – if student is ineligible  
**Delete** – to remove

Select whether the student is **Full-time** or **Part-time** enrolled for the term

**Full time**  
**Part time**

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring	4-Summer
School Code			
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"/>
Program of Study			
Ineligible Reason	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
Living Allowance	\$ <input type="text"/>		\$ <input type="text"/>
Tuition Fees	\$ <input type="text"/>		\$ <input type="text"/>
Requested Amount			

Select 1 - 25 credit hour(s) the student is enrolled in for the term  
 \*Use the scroll bar to navigate up to 25 credit hours

20  
19  
18  
17  
16  
15  
14  
13  
12  
11  
10  
9  
8  
7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1

**Save Changes**

**NESP Student Detail: Payments**

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports

List **Payment**

Current SSN  **Go**

Annual Award Amount

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

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring	4-Summer
School Code			
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"/>
Program of Study			
Ineligible Reason	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
Living Allowance	\$ <input type="text"/>		\$ <input type="text"/>
Tuition Fees	\$ <input type="text"/>		\$ <input type="text"/>
Requested Amount			

**Living Allowance** -- Enter amount to request. This field will not exceed the maximum allowed.

**Tuition & Fees** -- Enter amount to request.

**Requested Amount** -- Total amount requested for student payment.

**Save Changes** **Discard Changes**

# NES Payment Request Screen – Ineligible

**NESP** Student Detail: Payment

Home Student Certification **Payment** Reports

List **Payment**

Current SSN  **Go**

Annual Award Amount

Terms	1-Fall	2-Spring	4-Summer
School Code			
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"/>
Program of Study	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Ineligible Reason</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Living Allowance	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
Tuition Fees	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
Requested Amount			

**Save Changes** **Discard Changes**

Not making satisfactory academic progress

No longer enrolled in a nursing program of study

GPA not at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale

GPA at program start not at least 3.0 on 4.0 scale

Withdrawal prior to end of term

Not enrolled at least one-third of full-time hours

Not an Illinois resident

Defaulted student loan

Student is not accepting NES for this term

Not US citizen/eligible non-citizen

Not a HS Grad/no GED

# NES Payment Request Screen

## Submitting Requests

After generating the payment requests by entering payment information, the next step in the payment request process is to submit the payment request(s) that have been completed and saved.

- On the Submit Payment Requests screen, select the appropriate academic Term using the dropdown box in the Term field (initially blank) for which you will be creating payment requests.
- To submit generated payment requests, click on the Submit button.

Administration School Programs

NESP Submit Payment Requests

Home Student Certification Payment Reports

List Filter Sort Columns **Submit Payment Requests**

Selection Criteria for all eligible records

Term 1-Fall

Submit Reset

# 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)

# ING & IVG General Reminders

- Benefit usage data for the [IVG](#) and [ING Grant](#) programs is submitted to ISAC by colleges via the benefit usage functionality within each program's system.
  - Colleges report enrollment hours and dollar amounts for initial, in-district and out-of-district benefit usage by students, as well as adjustments to previously-submitted data.
- Even though ISAC may not be able to fully reimburse institutions for 2025-26 IVG or ING Grant awards, reporting of benefits used must still take place so that usage can be accurately reflected on students' accounts.
  - As announced in a [June 23 e-Message](#), fiscal year 2026 funds have been appropriated for ISAC to reimburse public universities for some of the tuition and fees that they waive on behalf of eligible veterans and Illinois National Guard members.
    - Details regarding the disbursement of these funds will be provided once they have been determined.

# 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 – Full Year Consideration
  - March 1 – Only 2nd Semester (2nd/3rd Quarter) and Summer Consideration
  - June 15 – 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.

# 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

- The 2025-26 online application is **not** available in the ISAC Student Portal.
- ISAC will communicate updates when the application becomes available later this fall.

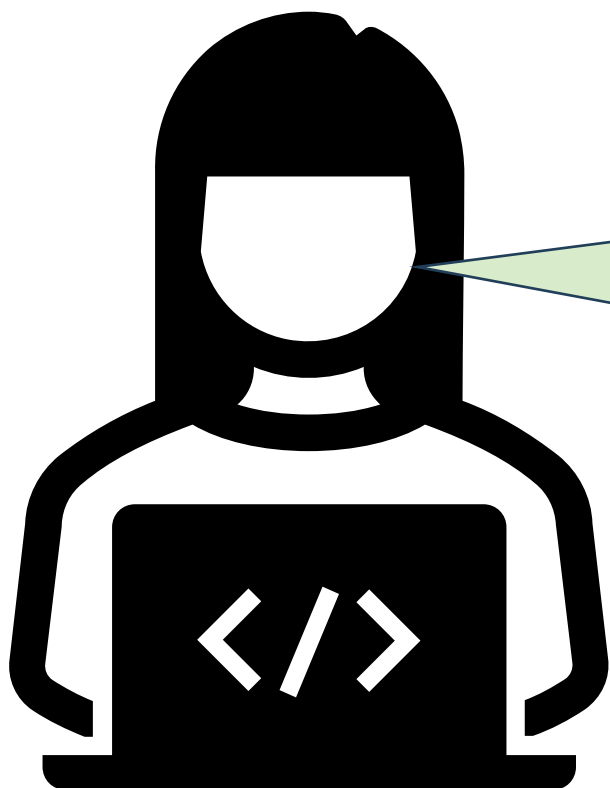
# **2026-27 Award Year Fiscal Year (FY) 2027**

# 2026-27 MAP Start-Up Formula

## Start-Up Formula

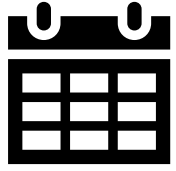
- On September 18, 2025, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission approved the 2026-27 (FY27) MAP start-up formula, which follows the FY26 recompute formula.
- Following the FY26 recompute formula, the following is being used in the start-up formula for 2026-27 MAP grants:
  - **2021-22 reported tuition 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 will be available October 1, 2025.

# Important Dates & Contact Information




# ISAC Calendar

## Webinars - Monthly Program & Operational Update


October	November	December
29 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>
@ 2 p.m.	@ 2 p.m.	@ 2 p.m.

The graphic features three vertical panels for October, November, and December. Each panel has a colored header (orange, gold, and green respectively) with the month name in white. Below the header is a larger colored area with the date in black. At the bottom of each panel is the time '@ 2 p.m.' in blue. Red starburst icons are placed above the November and December headers. Stylized tree illustrations are positioned between the panels.

 Dates 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)

**Sarah Dulay** [Sarah.Dulay@illinois.gov](mailto:Sarah.Dulay@illinois.gov)

**Hayle Mickelson** [Hayle.Mickelson@illinois.gov](mailto:Hayle.Mickelson@illinois.gov)

**Daniela Rios** [Daniela.Rios@illinois.gov](mailto:Daniela.Rios@illinois.gov)

**Sherry Schonauer** [Sherry.Schonauer@illinois.gov](mailto:Sherry.Schonauer@illinois.gov)

# Questions?





Thank you for attending today!