

# Illinois Residency for ISAC Programs

September 2023



# Agenda

- Requirements to Verify Illinois Residency
- ISAC Administrative Rules
  - General Provisions
    - Definitions
    - Applicant Eligibility
- ISAC Gift Assistance Programs
- ISAC Loan Repayment Programs
- Acceptable Documentation
- Residency Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

# Verifying Illinois Residency

- Schools are expected to verify residency for recipients of any ISAC gift assistance programs for which Illinois residency is a requirement
  - This applies to all students regardless of how they applied
  - When a school certifies a payment request, it is certifying that the student is an enrolled, eligible Illinois student meeting satisfactory academic progress
- Any and all conflicting data must be resolved
- ISAC's General Provisions provide:
  - Definitions regarding residency
  - Verification requirements
  - A list of examples of acceptable documents to confirm Illinois residency
    - Institutions may choose to request other types of documents than those listed
- Additional information about program requirements for each ISAC program can be found in its respective Part of the administrative rules
- Program recipients must meet the requirements in both the General Provisions and the program's rules

# [isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules.html](https://isac.org/e-library/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules.html)

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## 2023-24 ISAC Rules

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- [Adult Vocational Community College Scholarship Program \[Part 2745\]](#)
- [AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program \[Part 2766\]](#)
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[2004-05 ISAC Rules](#)

[2003-04 ISAC Rules](#)

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# ISAC Definitions – General Provisions

## ISAC [General Provisions](#), Section 2700.20 Definitions --

“Resident of Illinois” --

A dependent student is a resident of Illinois if the parent of the dependent-applicant, who is required by the instructions to complete the FAFSA or the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, physically resides within the State of Illinois, and Illinois is the parent's true, fixed and permanent home.

An independent student is a resident of Illinois if the applicant physically resides within the State of Illinois (at the time of application) and has so resided for a period of 12 continuous, full months immediately prior to the start of the academic year for which assistance is requested and Illinois is their true, fixed and permanent home.

# ISAC Definitions – General Provisions

## “Resident of Illinois” – (continued)

- When an applicant does not qualify as a resident of Illinois under the preceding 2 paragraphs and the applicant is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a foreign missionary, or is the dependent or the spouse of an individual who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a foreign missionary, then the applicant's residency shall be determined in accordance with the following:
  - An applicant who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces will be a resident of Illinois if the applicant physically resided in Illinois immediately prior to entering the U.S. Armed Forces, returned (or plans to return) to Illinois within 6 months after and including the date of separation and can demonstrate (pursuant to Section 2700.50(f) and (g)) that the applicant's domicile was the State of Illinois throughout such enlistment.
  - An applicant who is a foreign missionary will be a resident of Illinois if the applicant physically resided in Illinois for 6 continuous months immediately prior to entering missionary service, returned (or plans to return) to Illinois within 6 months after the conclusion of missionary service, and can demonstrate (pursuant to Section 2700.50(f) and (g)) that the applicant's domicile was the State of Illinois throughout the missionary service.
  - The dependent-applicant shall be a resident of Illinois notwithstanding the parents' temporary physical absence from Illinois provided the parents would be a resident of Illinois under the preceding 2 paragraphs.
  - The spouse-applicant shall be a resident of Illinois immediately upon physically occupying a dwelling within the State of Illinois provided it can be demonstrated that the applicant's absence from the State was the result of residing with the spouse during enlistment or missionary service outside of Illinois and that the spouse-applicant's domicile continues to be the State of Illinois.

# Applicant Eligibility - ISAC Programs

## General Provisions, Section 2700.40 General Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- f) Recipients who cease to be residents of Illinois after notification of eligibility may complete the academic year with the assistance awarded.
- k) Except for ING and IVG Grants, students enrolled in academic programs while incarcerated are ineligible for ISAC gift assistance benefits.

## General Provisions, Section 2700.50 Determining Applicant Eligibility

- a) The evaluation of applicant eligibility is the responsibility of both ISAC and the institution.
- d) Specific eligibility criteria for each ISAC gift assistance program can be found in its respective Section of this Part.

# Applicant Eligibility - ISAC Programs

## General Provisions, Section 2700.50 Determining Applicant Eligibility

- e) The institution is required to verify the residency of all applicants to ISAC gift assistance programs for which Illinois residency is a requirement.
  - 1) An institution is not required to verify residency if:
    - A) The applicant received payment of a MAP award during the previous academic year; or,
    - B) The applicant was enrolled in an ISAC-approved MAP institution or an ISAC-approved Illinois high school (see Section 2700.30) for the preceding consecutive 12 months prior to the start of the academic year for which assistance is requested.
  - 2) Notwithstanding the exceptions named in subsection (e)(1), the institution shall verify residency:
    - A) When an applicant has changed dependency status during the academic year to become an independent student; or,
    - B) If the institution has any information that indicates the applicant may not be a resident of Illinois.



# Applicant Eligibility - ISAC Programs

- 3) Data from one or more of the documents listed in this subsection (e)(3) may provide proof that an applicant (or parent) is an Illinois resident, as defined in Section 2700.20. The institution may choose to request documents that are in addition to, or instead of, those listed. For an independent student applicant, the dates recorded on the documents must indicate the applicant has resided in Illinois for the relevant 12 continuous, full months.
  - A) A valid State of Illinois tax return or federal tax transcript
  - B) Illinois high school or college transcript
  - C) Illinois driver's license
  - D) Utility or rent bills in the applicant's (or parent's) name
  - E) Illinois auto registration card
  - F) Residential lease in the applicant's (or parent's) name
  - G) Wage and tax statements (IRS Form W-2)
  - H) Statement of benefits history from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
  - I) State of Illinois identification card issued by the Secretary of State
  - J) Statement of benefits from the Illinois Department of Employment Security
  - K) Statement of benefits from the Social Security Administration
  - L) Illinois voter's registration card
  - M) Property tax bill
  - N) IRS Form 1099-Miscellaneous Income Statements
  
- 4) If an applicant is a resident of Illinois, but the institution cannot document this fact, the applicant or the institution may verify residency through ISAC's appeal process. (See Section 2700.70)

# Applicant Eligibility - ISAC Programs

- f) For all other eligibility criteria, if the institution has any information that indicates that the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements of ISAC-administered programs or if an applicant is selected for verification in conjunction with federal student assistance, that applicant shall be verified for ISAC-administered programs. A selected applicant must be verified for ISAC programs even if the applicant is ineligible for federal student assistance.
- g) By requesting payment for ISAC gift assistance programs, the postsecondary institution is certifying that the applicants are eligible for the assistance being sought.
- h) If an institution subsequently determines a student is no longer eligible for all or part of the awarded assistance, the institution must inform ISAC and submit the appropriate refund within 60 days after the receipt of payment or the end of a term, whichever is later.

# Applicant Eligibility - ISAC Programs

- i) Institutions may request first term payment even though verification is not yet complete. If, after verification, an ISAC payment adjustment is appropriate, institutions must submit the appropriate refund. If verification is not completed within 60 days after the conclusion of the regular school year, the institution shall return the first term payment to ISAC. For other than the first term of eligibility in an academic year, the verification process must be completed before the institution may request payment.
- j) When an institution adjusts an applicant's eligibility pursuant to Title IV, Part F, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 USC 1087kk et seq.), the institution shall retain documentation that demonstrates the appropriateness of the adjustment.
- k) If an institution erroneously certifies an applicant to be eligible, or a student is otherwise determined to be ineligible for ISAC gift assistance programs, ISAC will recover the erroneous payment from the institution.

# Monetary Award Program (MAP)

## From [MAP Rules](#), Section 2735.20 Applicant Eligibility

- a) A qualified applicant shall be:
  - 1) a citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - 2) a resident of Illinois;
  
- For dependent students
  - The parent of the dependent student who is required to complete the [FAFSA](#) or the Alternative Application must physically reside in Illinois and Illinois must be their true, fixed, and permanent home.
  
- For independent students
  - To be considered a resident of Illinois they must have physically resided in Illinois (at the time of application) and for 12 continuous full months immediately **prior to the start of the academic year** for which assistance is requested and Illinois must be their true, fixed, and permanent home.
    - Example: An independent student attending an institution with an academic year starting on August 15, 2023 must have resided in Illinois from August 15, 2022 through August 14, 2023.

# Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- U.S. Armed Forces and Foreign Missionary students may qualify as Illinois residents if they:
  - physically resided in Illinois immediately prior to entering the U.S. Armed Forces (missionaries must reside in Illinois for six continuous months prior to entering missionary service);
  - return or plan to return to Illinois within six months of the conclusion of service; and
  - can demonstrate that their domicile was Illinois throughout such service.
- A foreign missionary is an individual who is assigned duty outside the United States by an organization that engages in educational, philanthropic, humanitarian, or altruistic works.
  - The organization must have been engaged in placing foreign missionaries for at least five years and must be exempt from the payment of federal taxes.
  - Examples include the Peace Corps and the Evangelical Alliance Mission.
- Dependents of Armed Forces members or foreign missionaries will be considered an Illinois resident if their parent(s) meets the Illinois residency requirements
- Applicants who are the spouses of Armed Forces members or foreign missionaries must demonstrate that their absence from Illinois was the result of residing with a spouse during the period of service outside the state, and must also demonstrate that their domicile continues to be Illinois

# Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- All recipients of the MAP grant must be residents of Illinois.
- It is the college or university's responsibility to ensure that **all** MAP recipients meet the Illinois residency requirements.
- An institution is not required to verify residency (and collect additional documentation) if:
  - the applicant received payment of a MAP award during the previous academic year; or,
  - the applicant was enrolled in an ISAC-approved MAP institution or an ISAC-approved Illinois high school for the preceding consecutive 12 months prior to the start of the academic year for which assistance is requested.
- It is the college or university's responsibility to verify residency for students whose dependency status may change from "dependent" to independent" during the award year to ensure the student meets the requirements of an independent student.

# Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- If Illinois becomes the parent's true, fixed, and permanent home after the initial FAFSA is filed, the student's and the parent's state of legal residence and permanent mailing address must be corrected to indicate Illinois on the FAFSA.
  - Corrections must be received by ISAC while data is still accepted and processed for the applicable academic year.
- Applicants who cease to be Illinois residents after MAP award notification may complete the academic year with the awarded grant
  - Example: If a dependent student's parent(s) moves out of state after completing the FAFSA and the student has received notification of MAP eligibility, the student remains eligible for MAP for the remainder of that award year, assuming the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements.
- If a school has conflicting information about an applicant's residency or has information which indicates the applicant may not be a resident of Illinois, the school must resolve these types of discrepancies prior to delivering MAP funds.

# Illinois Veteran Grant

## From [IVG Rules](#), Section 2733.20 Applicant Eligibility

- a) A **qualified applicant** shall be any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, a reserve component of the Armed Forces, or the Illinois National Guard who has served at least one year of federal active duty service and whose service has been characterized as honorable, provided the applicant:
  - 1) was a:
    - A) resident of Illinois at the time of entering federal active duty service or within 6 months prior to entering the service; or
    - B) student at an Illinois public university or community college at the time of entering federal active duty service; and
  - 2) established or plans to establish Illinois residency within 6 months after leaving federal active duty service, or if married to a person in continued military service:
    - A) applied for this grant within 6 months after and including the date that the spouse was stationed within Illinois; or
    - B) established Illinois residency within 6 months after and including the date that the spouse was separated (if the spouse was stationed outside Illinois).
- b) **To use benefits**, a qualified applicant meeting the requirements of subsection (a) must **reside in Illinois while enrolled** unless federal active duty is being served during the time of enrollment or the qualified applicant is residing with a spouse in continued military service who is currently stationed outside of Illinois.
- c) An applicant who does not meet the residency requirements in subsection (a) may be a **qualified applicant** if the applicant:
  - 1) resides in Illinois at the time of application and while enrolled; and
  - 2) has been a resident of Illinois for at least 15 consecutive years at some point since leaving federal active duty.



# Illinois Veteran Grant

## From [IVG Rules](#), Section 2733.20 Applicant Eligibility

j) In order to establish eligibility for this grant, an individual shall submit to ISAC an application and documentation of all periods of service.

4) The definition of "Resident of Illinois" contained in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2700.20 does not apply to the Illinois Veteran Grant Program; rather, for the purposes of this program, residency is established as stated in subsections (a) and (b) or (c). If the applicant's DD Form 214 does not indicate Illinois residency when entering and/or separating from the Armed Forces, and when any other residency requirement is being verified, residency may be verified by providing one or more of the documents listed in this subsection (j)(4). ISAC may choose to request documents in addition to, or instead of, those listed. The dates recorded on the documents must indicate the applicant has resided in Illinois for the required period.

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- For IVG, there are two important aspects related to Illinois residency
  1. To establish eligibility for the program (application process)
  2. Reside in Illinois to use benefits (when enrolled)
- ISAC determines if the student meets program residency requirements based on documentation provided during the initial application process
  - Examples of required documentation are provided in the rules
- Since students may not use benefits right away after ISAC determines eligibility and students do not have to re-apply each year, institutions are expected to confirm that the student resides in Illinois when enrolled and choosing to use benefits
- Residency may change from the time the applicant first applied to the point at which the student wants to use benefits
  - The student retains their eligibility, even if they move out of state.
  - However, to use benefits, the student must reside in Illinois while enrolled, unless on active duty or living with a spouse on active duty.
  - The student does not need to re-apply when returning to Illinois, but will need to confirm they reside in Illinois with the institution where enrolled

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- For schools that have a process requiring student veterans to provide information on which veteran benefits they want to use, they may collect confirmation that the student is residing in Illinois as part of that process
- Best practice would be to have a certification statement as part of the form that the student is signing each term, allowing the student to confirm benefit choices and provide Illinois residency information
  - This would be sufficient documentation to confirm that the student meets the IVG requirement to reside in Illinois while using benefits
- Other documentation to confirm residency may include:
  - FAFSA/ISIR data indicating an Illinois address
  - Documentation used to confirm residency for other ISAC programs with dates applicable to the term/award year
- If an institution has information on file for a student (student billing address, transcript request, etc.) indicating an out-of-state address, the institution is expected to verify residency by collecting documentation to confirm that the student is currently residing in Illinois while enrolled in order to provide IVG benefits

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- Other important points to keep in mind ...
  - Students frequently request a new updated eligibility letter from ISAC and when that letter is generated it will contain their initial eligibility information, but the letter will be dated with the current date
    - As a result, it is not a good document to use to confirm that the student is currently residing in Illinois, especially when there has been a gap in enrollment
  - Students in online-only coursework or programs must reside in Illinois while enrolled in order to receive their IVG benefits
  - If there is a unique or special reason why a student has had to temporarily leave the state (illness, to obtain health care, etc.), the student can appeal to the college or to ISAC to continue to receive benefits
    - Similar to a Professional Judgment

# Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

## From [ING Rules](#), Section 2730.20 Applicant Eligibility

- b) A qualified applicant must:
  - 1) be in active status in the Illinois Army or Air National Guard and served for at least one year in the Illinois National Guard; or
  - 2) have been active in the Illinois National Guard for at least five consecutive years, had studies interrupted by being called to federal active duty for at least six months, and be within the 12 month period immediately following discharge from the Illinois National Guard.
  
- Recipients do not have to be a resident of Illinois for this program
- Rather, they must be in active status in the Illinois National Guard (per the above rule references) as well as meet other eligibility criteria of the program

# Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

- From [MTI rules](#), Section 2763.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - a) A qualified applicant shall:
    - 1) be a minority student or a qualified bilingual minority applicant;
    - 2) be a resident of Illinois;
    - 3) be a citizen or eligible noncitizen of the United States;

# Golden Apple (GA) Scholars of Illinois Scholarship Program

- From [GA Rules](#), Section 2764.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - b) A qualified applicant, at the time of designation as a Golden Apple Scholar by the Golden Apple Foundation for Excellence in Teaching, shall:
    - 1) be a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
    - 2) be a resident of Illinois;

# Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- From [SETTW Rules](#), Section 2765.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - a) A qualified applicant shall be:
    - 1) a United States citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
    - 2) a resident of Illinois;



# Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

## From [NES Rules](#), Section 2749.10 Definitions

- "Illinois resident" means a person who has been a resident of Illinois for at least one year prior to applying for a scholarship and is a citizen or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States. (Section 5(1) of the Law)

## Section 2749.100 Eligibility

- a) To qualify for consideration, an applicant shall meet the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 5 or 6.5 of the Law showing that the applicant:
  - 1) For Nursing Scholarships
    - A) Has been **a resident of this State for at least one year prior to application**, and is a citizen or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States (Section 5(1) of the Law); and
    - B) Is enrolled in or accepted for admission to an Illinois school in an associate degree in nursing program, hospital-based diploma in nursing program, baccalaureate degree in nursing program, graduate degree in nursing program or certificate in practical nursing program at an approved institution (Section 5(2) of the Law); and
  - 2) For Nurse Educator Scholarships
    - A) Has been **a resident of this State for at least one year prior to application** and is a citizen or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States (Section 6.5(a)(1) of the Law); and

# Grant Programs for Dependents of Police or Fire Officers

- From [P/FO Rules, Section 2732.20 Applicant Eligibility](#)
  - a) A qualified applicant shall be:
    - 1) one of the following:
      - A) the natural child, legally adopted child, or child in the legal custody of an Illinois police or fire officer at the time the officer was killed in the line of duty; or
      - B) the natural child, legally adopted child, or child in the legal custody of an Illinois police or fire officer at the time or after a permanently disabling injury occurred in the line of duty. Children need not be born, legally adopted, or in the legal custody of the officer before the disability occurred in order to receive this grant; or
      - C) the husband or wife of the Illinois police or fire officer at the time the officer was killed in the line of duty or at the time a permanently disabling injury occurred in the line of duty; and
    - 2) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - b) An applicant need not be a resident of Illinois at the time of enrollment.

# Grant Programs for Dependents of Correctional Officers

- From [Correctional Officer Rules, Section 2731.20 Applicant Eligibility](#)
  - a) A qualified applicant shall be:
    - 1) one of the following:
      - A) the natural child, legally adopted child, or child in the legal custody of a correctional officer at the time the officer was killed in the line of duty; or
      - B) the natural child, legally adopted child, or child in the legal custody of a correctional officer at the time or after a permanently disabling injury occurred in the line of duty. Children need not be born, legally adopted, or in the legal custody of the employee before the disability occurred in order to receive this grant; or
      - C) the husband or wife of a correctional officer at the time the officer was killed in the line of duty or at the time a permanently disabling injury occurred in the line of duty; and
    - 2) a United States citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
  - b) An applicant need not be a resident of Illinois at the time of enrollment.

# Grant Program for Exonerees

- From [Exonerees Rules](#), Section 2743.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - a) A qualified applicant shall:
    - 1) be a resident of Illinois;
    - 2) have received:
      - A) a pardon issued on the grounds of innocence; or
      - B) a certificate of innocence from a circuit court;
    - 3) be an exonerated person who:
      - A) has not yet received a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate and is completing a high school equivalency preparation course through an Illinois Community Board-approved provider and/or is seeking an Illinois high school equivalency certificate; or
      - B) is enrolled at an ISAC-approved public university or community college in an eligible degree or certificate program (see 34 CFR 668.8) for either a semester or quarter term, throughout the institution's tuition refund/withdrawal adjustment period;

# Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship

- From [DEWDTS Rules](#), Section 2746.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - a) A qualified applicant shall be:
    - 1) the natural child, legally adopted child, or stepchild of an energy worker who has lost employment due to the reduced operation or closure of a fossil fuel power plant or coal mine;
    - 2) a United States citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
    - 3) enrolled or accepted for enrollment, on a full- or part-time basis (at least 3 credit hours) at an Illinois public university or community college; and
    - 4) will be without transition scholarship assistance and deterred by financial considerations from completing an educational program at the Illinois public university or community college of choice, as represented by there being unmet need in the applicant's financial aid package.
  - b) An applicant must be making satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate.
  - c) An applicant need not be a resident of Illinois at the time of enrollment; however, the award is limited to the cost of in-district and in-state tuition and fees.

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

- From [SWSP Rules](#), Section 2747.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - A qualified applicant shall:
    - a) hold a valid Illinois clinical social work license or social work license;
    - b) have obtained a master's degree in social work from an approved program;
    - c) be a citizen or eligible noncitizen of the United States;
    - d) submit an application and agree to take the courses at approved Illinois institutions to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License with an Endorsement in School Social Work.
    - e) enroll or be accepted for enrollment, on a full- or part-time basis (at least 3 credit hours), at the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Chicago State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University or Western Illinois University.

# Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program

- To qualify for the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program during the 2023-24 academic year, an applicant must:
  - be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen (FSA Handbook Volume 1, Chapter 2)
  - be **a member of the incumbent workforce**, currently working or having worked in the early childhood industry, serving children from birth to age 5
    - Applicants must provide documentation confirming their **current membership in the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity® Registry**
  - be enrolled or accepted for enrollment on a full- or part-time (at least 3 credit hours) basis at the undergraduate or graduate level at a public or non-profit private Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity member institution, and pursuing an eligible program
- There are no ISAC Administrative Rules for this program

# Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program

## From [CB Rules](#), Section 2753.20 Applicant Eligibility

- A qualified applicant shall be:
  - a) a resident of Illinois;
  - b) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - c) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan;
  - d) an individual who is not in default on a federally guaranteed educational loan and does not owe a refund on a grant or scholarship program administered by ISAC;
  - e) a qualifying behavioral health professional who meets licensing requirements of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or certification as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor from the Illinois Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association;



# Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment Program

## From [Teacher Loan Repayment Rules](#), Section 2767.20 Applicant Eligibility

- A qualified applicant shall be:
  - a) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - b) a resident of Illinois;

## Section 2767.30 Program Procedures

- a) An applicant must complete and file an ISAC application for a Teacher Loan Repayment grant or Child Care Provider Loan Repayment grant and include documentation that an educational loan was forgiven under Section 428J or 428K of the HEA, and qualified for that loan forgiveness by virtue of **service performed in Illinois**.
- b) An applicant must apply for a grant under this Part within six months after receiving notification of loan forgiveness pursuant to Section 428J or 428K of the HEA.

# Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program

## From [Loan Repayment Rules](#), Section 2758.20 Applicant Eligibility

- a) A qualified applicant shall be:
  - 1) a resident of Illinois;
  - 2) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - 3) a nurse educator who has taught for at least 12 consecutive months in an approved program of professional or practical nursing education in Illinois;

# John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program

## From [JRJ Rules](#), Section 2754.20 Applicant Eligibility

- A qualified applicant for loan repayment shall be:
  - a) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - b) a licensed attorney in good standing with the **Illinois bar**;
  - c) a borrower who is not in default on a federal guaranteed educational loan;
  - d) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan;
  - e) **employed as a public defender or prosecutor**; and
  - f) required to enter into a Service Agreement in which the applicant, in exchange for loan repayment assistance, promises to remain employed as a public defender or prosecutor for an initial three-year term of service or any further term of service identified in a subsequent Service Agreement

# School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

## From [Loan Repayment Rules](#), Section 2748.20 Applicant Eligibility

- A qualified applicant shall be:
  - a) United States Citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - b) a resident of Illinois;
  - c) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan related to obtaining a degree in social work;
  
- e) an individual who, on the date of application submission, is currently employed and was employed as a social worker for least 12 consecutive months by:
  - 1) an Illinois public elementary school;
  - 2) an Illinois public secondary school; or
  - 3) an Illinois municipality where the social worker did not report directly to a police department.

# Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment Program

## From [Loan Repayment Rules](#), Section 2757.20 Applicant Eligibility

- A qualified applicant shall be:
  - a) a resident of Illinois;
  - b) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
  - c) a medical provider who, for each year during which a grant is received, fulfills a separate 12-month period as a physician, certified nurse practitioner, registered professional nurse, certified nursing assistant or licensed practical nurse in a State of Illinois Veterans' Home;

# Acceptable Documentation

- ISAC General Provisions provide a list of suggested documents that may be collected to verify Illinois residency
  - For an independent student, the documentation must indicate that the student resided in Illinois for the relevant 12 continuous, full months prior to the beginning of the school's academic year
    - Documents do not necessarily need to be collected for each month unless there is a gap in residency or conflicting information
  - The institution may choose to request documents that are in addition to the suggested items listed in ISAC Administrative Rules
- Additional suggestions for acceptable documentation to confirm Illinois residency can be found on the Secretary of State's website
  - [www.ilsos.gov/publications/pdf\\_publications/dsd\\_x173.pdf](http://www.ilsos.gov/publications/pdf_publications/dsd_x173.pdf)
  - Information on unacceptable documentation to confirm residency is also provided

- 3) Data from one or more of the documents listed in this subsection (e)(3) may provide proof that an applicant (or parent) is an Illinois resident, as defined in Section 2700.20. The institution may choose to request documents that are in addition to, or instead of, those listed. For an independent student applicant, the dates recorded on the documents must indicate the applicant has resided in Illinois for the relevant 12 continuous, full months.
  - A) A valid State of Illinois tax return or federal tax transcript
  - B) Illinois high school or college transcript
  - C) Illinois driver's license
  - D) Utility or rent bills in the applicant's (or parent's) name
  - E) Illinois auto registration card
  - F) Residential lease in the applicant's (or parent's) name
  - G) Wage and tax statements (IRS Form W-2)
  - H) Statement of benefits history from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
  - I) State of Illinois identification card issued by the Secretary of State
  - J) Statement of benefits from the Illinois Department of Employment Security
  - K) Statement of benefits from the Social Security Administration
  - L) Illinois voter's registration card
  - M) Property tax bill
  - N) IRS Form 1099-Miscellaneous Income Statements





# Residency Resources

- Illinois Residency Requirements webpage
  - [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-eligibility-requirements/illinois-residency-requirements.html](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/map-eligibility-requirements/illinois-residency-requirements.html)
- Documenting Illinois Residency for the Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program (for applicants)
  - [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/illinois-veteran-grant/media/resources-IL-residence-IVG.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/illinois-veteran-grant/media/resources-IL-residence-IVG.pdf)
- Frequently Asked Questions Document
  - On the Partner Training page in the E-Library
  - [isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/FAQ-ISAC-Verif-Rules.pdf](https://isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/FAQ-ISAC-Verif-Rules.pdf)
  - Last updated January 2022
  - A new version will be posted soon

# Frequently Asked Questions

# Are colleges responsible for verifying Illinois residency only for those applicants who are selected for federal verification?

It is the college's responsibility to ensure that all recipients of ISAC programs meet all of the eligibility requirements associated with the program(s) that the student is receiving, including Illinois residency for those ISAC programs that require it.

The financial aid office must have policies and procedures in place to help identify which students can be awarded based on application data, which ones may require additional documentation, and which ones may have conflicting information that needs to be resolved.

# Must colleges verify residency for all Monetary Award Program (MAP) recipients?

Policies and procedures should be in place to ensure that all students who are receiving the benefits of an ISAC gift assistance program are meeting the eligibility requirements specific to that program.

One of the eligibility criteria for MAP recipients is that the student is an Illinois resident, so it is the financial aid office's responsibility to ensure that students receiving a MAP grant are meeting the residency requirements.

Checking an applicant's self-reported data on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) may be sufficient to confirm residency; however, there must also be processes in place to identify those students where additional confirmation may be necessary. At the point when the request for MAP payment is submitted for a particular student, the institution is certifying that the student meets all eligibility criteria for the program, including residency.

# What are some examples of situations in which the financial aid office does not need to collect additional documentation to verify Illinois residency?

- A dependent student and his parents provide an Illinois address on the FAFSA and there's no conflicting information
- An independent student provides a date of residency on the FAFSA which indicates that they have been a resident of Illinois for more than 12 months prior to the start of the academic year for which the award would be received, and there is no conflicting information
- The student was enrolled at an Illinois high school for the preceding consecutive 12 months prior to the start of the academic year
- The student was enrolled in an ISAC-approved MAP institution for the preceding consecutive 12 months prior to the start of the academic year
- The student received payment of a MAP award during the previous academic year

However, in any case, if the financial aid office becomes aware of conflicting information which suggests that a student applicant and/or a dependent student's parent(s) may not meet ISAC residency requirements, the financial aid office should request additional documentation to confirm residency status.

# What are some examples of conflicting information?

Any information or documentation that appears to question the validity of a student's claim of Illinois residency can be considered conflicting information.

Examples of information that should be investigated include:

- Information in the college's records that shows the student or the student's parent with an address or residency in a state other than Illinois.
- An incoming freshman student indicates on the FAFSA that s/he graduated from a high school in a state other than Illinois, but the parents indicate on the FAFSA that they have been residents of Illinois for more than five years.

## **Does use of the term “verify” mean that documentation must be collected from every MAP recipient to verify residency?**

While it is the college’s responsibility to partner with ISAC to ensure that all MAP recipients meet the residency requirement, it does not mean that documentation must be collected from every MAP recipient.

Information that is provided on the FAFSA and in ISAC’s GAP Access portal can be relied on to confirm residency for many MAP recipients, and ISAC’s administrative rules specify conditions when it may not be necessary to collect additional documentation to verify residency

# What data fields in GAP Access can be used to check Illinois residency for MAP recipients?

- The data elements that appear in GAP Access that can be used to confirm self-reported Illinois residency data are:
  - Dependent student's address
  - Student's State/Residence Date field
  - Parent's State/Residence Date field

School Certification Data	
<b>Citizenship Fields</b>	<b>Verification Fields</b>
Citizenship Status 1	Selected for Verification N
Alien Registration #	
DHS Match Flag	<b>NSLDS Default Fields</b>
Secondary DHS Match Flag	NSLDS Match Flag 1
SSA Citizenship Flag A	NSLDS DB Results Flag 3
<b>Residence Fields</b>	
Student's State Residence Date IL -	
Parent's State Residence Date IL -	
<b>Address</b> [REDACTED] CHICAGO, IL 60659	<b>Date of Birth</b> [REDACTED]
	<b>Appl Receipt Date</b> 10/24/2022



# What data fields in GAP Access can be used to check Illinois residency for MAP recipients?

- Additional data elements that appear in GAP Access that can assist in confirming Illinois residency are:
  - Application Disqualify Codes
  - Paid Previous (Displays which term in the prior academic year the student was paid)

Code	Definition of Disqualify Code
1	Dependent student, parents NOT Illinois residents.
2	Independent student NOT an Illinois resident.
4	Invalid (or blank) class level, such as graduate student.
6	Loan default is overridden; payment is allowed
7	MAP Paid Credit Hours exceed 134.
8	Student is in default on a Stafford loan.
9	Other ISAC disqualify.
Blank	Not disqualified.

**Details**

Depend Code  
D

Academic Level  
1-Freshman

Living Allowance  
\$4,875

EFC Change Flag  
2

Primary EFC  
\$1,432

Adjusted EFC  
\$3,561

Estimated Pell  
\$3,900

Adjusted Pell  
\$3,120

Student Contribution  
\$1,800

Student Change Flag

SSN Match Flag  
4

Update Type  
U

As Of Date  
06/28/2019

**Disqualify**

MAP Suspend

ISAC Default  
N

MAP Paid Credit Hours  
000

**Paid Previous**  
0

Continuing  
N

ING Certified

Code	Definition of Paid Previously Code
0	Student was not paid in the previous year.
1	Student was paid the 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester of the previous year.
2	Student was paid the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of the previous year.
3	Student was paid the 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of the previous year.
4	Student was paid the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of the previous year.
5	Student was paid the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of the previous year.

**If a student changed dependency status to become an independent student, but also received a payment of MAP the previous academic year, would Illinois residency need to be verified?**

An independent student must have resided in Illinois for 12 continuous months prior to the start of the award year and Illinois must be his/her true, fixed and permanent home.

If the student does not meet this requirement -- even if s/he received MAP in the previous year -- the student would not be eligible for MAP as an independent student.

# Does a dependent student need to show proof that the parent lived in Illinois before the first FAFSA filing date, or simply that the parent is currently an Illinois resident?

If a dependent student's parent indicates on the FAFSA that s/he is a resident of Illinois, the student would not need to provide any additional documentation to prove the date residency was established.

- There are no rules regarding when a parent must establish residency in Illinois, nor is there a time period requirement for which they must have resided in Illinois. If, however, the financial aid office has reason to believe that conflicting or inaccurate information has been provided, additional documentation should be collected.

In order to be considered a resident of Illinois, the parent must physically reside within the State of Illinois and Illinois must be his or her true, fixed and permanent home.

If a dependent student and/or his/her parent move to Illinois after the FAFSA has been completed, the applicant may correct the FAFSA to provide a new address and update the state of residence information.

# Can a Temporary Visitor's Driver's License (TVDL) be considered acceptable documentation to confirm residency for ISAC programs?

A TVDL is not acceptable documentation for proof of Illinois residency for ISAC programs. Because it states directly on the card that it's not valid for identification, it is not a recommended document for verifying residency.

However, just because a parent has a TVDL does not mean that they do not meet the residency requirements for an ISAC Program. In order to obtain a TVDL, a person had to have resided in Illinois for 12 months prior to it being issued, so the student or parent could provide the same documentation they used to obtain a TVDL.

See the Illinois Secretary of State's website for more information about the TVDL: [www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/TVDL/tvdl.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/TVDL/tvdl.html)

# What can be done if the financial aid office is not able to confirm Illinois residency, but the student is insistent that she/he is an Illinois resident?

Regardless of the student's claim, if residency cannot be determined, the student or the institution may verify residency through ISAC's appeal process.

## ISAC General Provisions-Section 2700.70

- [https://www.isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2002-03-isac-rules/isacrules\\_03\\_genprov.pdf](https://www.isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2002-03-isac-rules/isacrules_03_genprov.pdf)

# Why are there additional ISAC verification requirements in the rules for students who have been selected for federal verification?

Because income and asset data is critical to calculating an EFC and, subsequently, a MAP award, it is important that accurate data is used on the application.

If a college is aware of conflicting information and/or has reason to believe that the EFC may not be accurate -- even if a student isn't receiving federal Title IV aid -- it's important to resolve any conflicting, missing or inaccurate data to ensure that MAP is awarded on accurate application data.

# ISAC Contact Information

## School Services

866-247-2172

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

## ISAC Call Center – Student Services

800-899-4722

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

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## Partner & Training Services

Kim Eck -- [Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov)

Stephanie Claudio - [Stephanie.Claudio@illinois.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Claudio@illinois.gov)

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# Questions

