

# Basic ISAC Program Data 2025

**ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

December 2025

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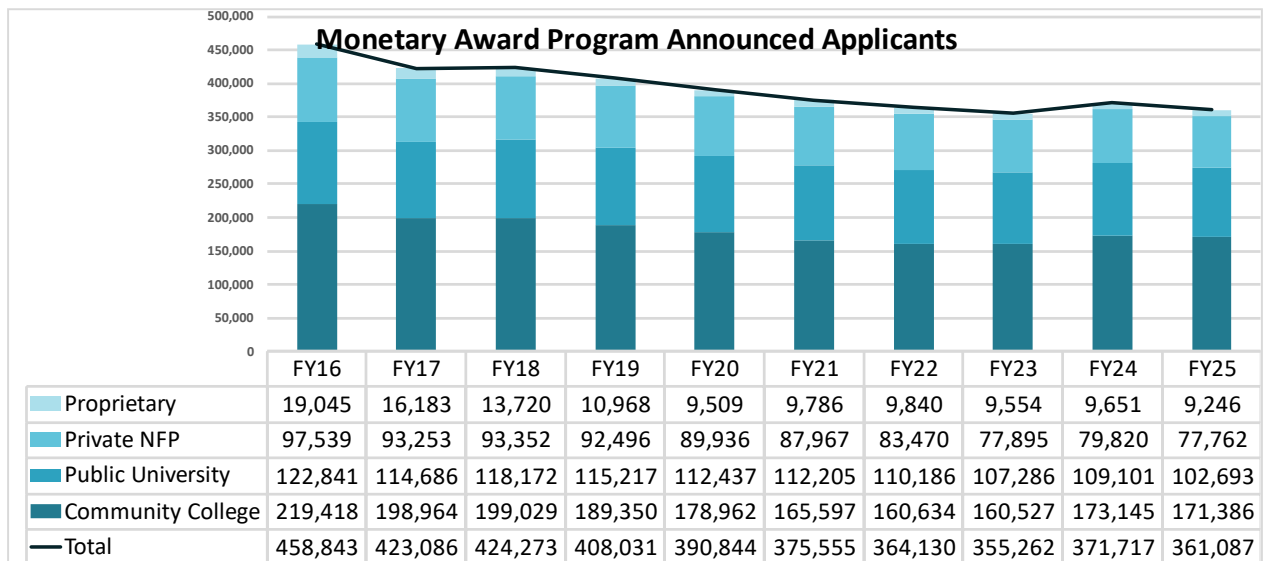
## Monetary Award Program

### Eligibility requirements

- Enrolled in at least 3 credit hours at a MAP-approved school
- May be paid for up to 135 credit hours of enrollment; if  $\leq 134$  one more term is allowed.
- Undergraduate Illinois residents with program-determined “need” greater than \$300
- May not be in default on any Title IV program (federal financial aid)

### Application Volume

- Application volume peaked in FY2013 at more than 525,000 applications, then trended downward for about two decades. Exceptions were a small bump in FY2018, when FAFSA filing began 3 months earlier, and FY2024. In FY2025, FAFSA filing began 3 months later than usual due to FAFSA simplification, with the cycle heavily shaped by unforeseen glitches and issues in FAFSA processing.
- Application volume decreased about 3.0% from FY2021 to FY2022. Volume decreased another 2.4% from FY2022 to FY2023. Volume increased from FY2023 to FY2024 by 4.6% but then decreased in FY2025 by 2.9%. From FY2013 to FY2025 application volume is down just over 31%.
- Between FY2016 and FY2025, the largest decline in volume was in the Public 2-Year sector, where volume was down almost 22%. In that same time frame, volume for Private Not-for-Profit (PNFP) and Public 4-Year institutions declined by 20.2% and 16.4%, respectively. The closure of several Proprietary schools contributed to sharp declines in that sector.
- Between FY2016 and FY2025, application volume from Independent students was down 31.5%, compared to a 14.0% decrease for Dependents.



*Announced Applicants: Illinois residents who completed an application for financial aid, had not yet earned a bachelor's degree, and whose first-choice school participates in MAP. NFP: Not-for-Profit institutions*

## Program Funding

- In the past five years, nearly 100% or more of the MAP funding allocated for grant awards was spent.

### Funding Allocated for Grants / Lapse (\$M)

| Year   | Available |         |        |         |
|--------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|
|        | to Spend  | Spent   | Lapse  | % Spent |
| FY2021 | \$442.3   | \$440.6 | \$1.7  | 99.6%   |
| FY2022 | \$470.0   | \$467.7 | \$2.3  | 99.5%   |
| FY2023 | \$589.0   | \$595.9 | \$-6.9 | 101.2%  |
| FY2024 | \$687.6   | \$690.7 | \$-3.1 | 100.5%  |
| FY2025 | \$697.4   | \$700.2 | \$-2.8 | 100.4%  |

Selected program appropriations are available beginning Table 1.0 of the 2025 ISAC Data Book. During the time period covered by this report, ISAC has been authorized to use up to 2% of total MAP funding for operations. The “Available to Spend” figures above represent 98% of the annual program appropriation. In FY2023, FY2024, and FY2025 part of the 2% ISAC operation allowance was used for awards.

- In FY2016, no complete state budget was reached. MAP was appropriated \$169.8 million to cover first-term claims. An additional \$151.0 million was allocated for FY17 but designated to cover FY16 claims.
- In FY2017, the MAP appropriation was not provided until after the school year had ended.
- FY2018 was the first year of “early FAFSA.” The filing season began on October 1, 2016, instead of January 1, 2017. Also, prior-prior year income was requested on the FAFSA instead of prior year, to enable the use of tax information that had already been filed.
- MAP received \$36m more in FY2018, \$50m more in FY2020, \$28m more in FY2022, \$122 million more in FY23, \$100 million more in FY2024, and \$10 million more in FY2025. These increases funded some much-needed updates to eligibility formula components as well as additional awarding, resulting in all eligible applicants being offered awards in FY2022 and FY2023.

### Number of MAP Recipients and Dollars Claimed (\$Million)

| Year   | Public 4-Year |         | Public 2-Year |        | PNFP   |         | Proprietary |        | All     |         |
|--------|---------------|---------|---------------|--------|--------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|
|        | #             | \$      | #             | \$     | #      | \$      | #           | \$     | #       | \$      |
| FY2016 | 39,539        | \$141.8 | 28,245        | \$27.8 | 35,308 | \$139.0 | 3,965       | \$11.2 | 107,057 | \$319.8 |
| FY2017 | 43,267        | \$154.1 | 37,296        | \$36.1 | 37,013 | \$145.2 | 4,003       | \$11.1 | 121,579 | \$346.4 |
| FY2018 | 47,630        | \$188.8 | 41,698        | \$43.1 | 36,756 | \$150.6 | 3,433       | \$10.0 | 129,517 | \$392.5 |
| FY2019 | 47,335        | \$187.7 | 41,110        | \$42.3 | 37,330 | \$153.4 | 3,090       | \$8.9  | 128,865 | \$392.2 |
| FY2020 | 48,433        | \$210.1 | 48,956        | \$50.6 | 38,150 | \$171.3 | 3,382       | \$10.9 | 138,921 | \$442.9 |
| FY2021 | 49,114        | \$211.2 | 49,272        | \$49.8 | 37,655 | \$167.3 | 3,876       | \$12.3 | 139,917 | \$440.6 |
| FY2022 | 50,310        | \$224.1 | 53,079        | \$54.4 | 37,888 | \$175.2 | 4,349       | \$14.1 | 145,626 | \$467.7 |
| FY2023 | 48,791        | \$281.2 | 57,735        | \$84.1 | 35,849 | \$212.5 | 4,378       | \$18.1 | 146,753 | \$595.9 |
| FY2024 | 47,962        | \$326.8 | 57,238        | \$91.7 | 35,818 | \$253.2 | 3,814       | \$19.1 | 144,832 | \$690.7 |
| FY2025 | 49,526        | \$325.4 | 60,481        | \$97.6 | 37,427 | \$258.4 | 3,782       | \$18.8 | 151,216 | \$700.2 |

- In FY2025, MAP awards were reduced after first-term claims exceeded their projection. The reduction on second- and third-term claims equated to a 4% annual reduction.
- In FY2025, 78.9% of MAP awards went to students with a Student Aid Index (SAI) <= zero.
- In FY2025, 97.5% of MAP awards went to students who were Pell-eligible.

### Maximum MAP Award History

| Award Year | Statutory Maximum | Maximum in Formula | Effective Maximum |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 2015-16    | \$6,468           | \$4,968            | \$4,720           |
| 2016-17    | \$6,468           | \$4,968            | \$4,720           |
| 2017-18    | \$6,468           | \$4,968            | \$4,869           |
| 2018-19    | \$6,468           | \$4,968            | \$4,869           |
| 2019-20    | \$6,468           | \$5,340            | \$5,340           |
| 2020-21    | \$6,468           | \$5,340            | \$5,340           |
| 2021-22    | \$6,468           | \$5,496            | \$5,661           |
| 2022-23    | \$8,508           | \$7,200            | \$7,200           |
| 2023-24    | \$10,896          | \$8,400            | \$8,400           |
| 2024-25    | \$10,896          | \$8,400            | \$8,064           |

The Effective Maximum differs from the Maximum Award used in the MAP Eligibility Formula when a reduction (or addition) factor is used to determine final awards. The full maximum award history is available in Table 2.0c of the 2025 ISAC Data Book.

### Number of MAP Eligible Applicants Suspended

| Initial /Final Suspense Dates     | Public 4-Year | Public 2-Year | PNFP   | Proprietary | All     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| FY2016 – February 22              | 23,801        | 110,852       | 17,612 | 9,281       | 161,546 |
| FY2017 – March 10 / April 15      | 12,485        | 75,837        | 11,098 | 5,168       | 104,588 |
| FY2018 – January 16 / March 10    | 12,832        | 68,852        | 11,307 | 4,555       | 97,546  |
| FY2019 – February 28 / April 5    | 10,994        | 59,043        | 12,762 | 3,088       | 82,799  |
| FY2020 – April 29 / June 27       | 6,751         | 38,249        | 6,245  | 1,686       | 52,901  |
| FY2021 – July 1 / August 23       | 3,469         | 17,470        | 3,618  | 1,269       | 25,826  |
| FY2022 – August 27 / All Released | 0             | 0             | 0      | 0           | 0       |
| FY2023 – Never Suspended          | 0             | 0             | 0      | 0           | 0       |
| FY2024 – September 23             | 3,252         | 21,032        | 3,280  | 1,164       | 28,728  |
| FY2025 – August 21                | 4,312         | 27,807        | 4,661  | 1,498       | 38,278  |

MAP suspense history beginning with AY2005-06 is in Table 2.0d, and additional data is in Table 2.0e of the 2025 ISAC Data Book.

- The MAP eligibility formula has used the 21-22 Pell Table and 21-22 T&F to represent costs since FY23.
- FY25 FAFSA filing began 12/30/23 and the Suspense Data was 8/21/24. Projected average *weekly claims for each month* at FY2025 application volume rates: January \$62M; February through May \$17M-\$18M; June through August \$9m-\$10M

### Average Taxable Income of FY2025 MAP Recipients, if Reported

| Student Type         | Public 4-Year | Public 2-Year | PNFP     | Proprietary | All      |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Dependent (Parental) | \$44,139      | \$34,268      | \$45,468 | \$41,364    | \$41,379 |
| Independent          | \$25,229      | \$27,399      | \$27,103 | \$33,430    | \$27,324 |

## MAP Grant Purchasing Power

- MAP provided full coverage of tuition and fees in FY2002. Then application volume started increasing, and additional funds went towards serving more students instead of updating the MAP eligibility formula.
- Coverage declined over time, hitting a low of 31% at public universities in FY19 and just under 36% at community colleges in FY21.
- Funding increases in FY2018, FY2020, and FY2022-FY2024 coupled with decreasing application volume. enabled formula improvements. (The reduction factor was removed, tuition and fees were updated to 2021-22 levels in and the MAP Maximum Award gradually increased from \$4,968 (in FY02 through FY19, not including reduction factors) to \$8,400 in FY2024. In FY2025 a 4% reduction factor was applied to keep claims within the appropriation, making the effective maximum \$8,064, but more awards claimed than in FY2024.
- The table below shows how MAP tuition and fee coverage has changed over time. Tuition and fees are represented by FTE-weighted sector average tuition and fee amounts. The MAP award is the effective maximum award at public universities, and the award for students with no resources (0 EFC through FY24 and SAI <= 0 in FY25) at community colleges.

**Percentage of Sector-Average Tuition and Fees Covered by the Highest MAP Grant**

| Year   | Public 2-Year                              |         |   |         | Public 4-Year |            |         |
|--------|--|---------|---|---------|---------------|------------|---------|
|        | Max Pell Award<br>All Zero SAI<br>Students | T&F     | Highest MAP<br>for Zero SAI<br>Students | Percent | T&F           | Max<br>MAP | Percent |
| FY2002 | \$3,750                                    | \$1,731 | \$1,731                                 | 100%    | \$4,786       | \$4,786    | 100%    |
| FY2009 | \$4,730                                    | \$2,762 | \$1,935                                 | 70%     | \$9,452       | \$4,968    | 53%     |
| FY2016 | \$5,775                                    | \$3,980 | \$1,568                                 | 39%     | \$14,535      | \$4,720    | 32%     |
| FY2017 | \$5,815                                    | \$4,157 | \$1,568                                 | 38%     | \$14,903      | \$4,720    | 32%     |
| FY2018 | \$5,920                                    | \$4,356 | \$1,617                                 | 37%     | \$15,182      | \$4,869    | 32%     |
| FY2019 | \$6,095                                    | \$4,444 | \$1,617                                 | 36%     | \$15,592      | \$4,869    | 31%     |
| FY2020 | \$6,195                                    | \$4,528 | \$1,650                                 | 36%     | \$15,936      | \$5,340    | 34%     |
| FY2021 | \$6,345                                    | \$4,599 | \$1,650                                 | 36%     | \$16,333      | \$5,340    | 33%     |
| FY2022 | \$6,495                                    | \$4,798 | \$1,800                                 | 38%     | \$16,539      | \$5,496    | 33%     |
| FY2023 | \$6,895                                    | \$4,895 | \$2,700                                 | 55%     | \$16,492      | \$7,200    | 44%     |
| FY2024 | \$7,395                                    | \$4,955 | \$3,000                                 | 61%     | \$16,817      | \$8,400    | 50%     |
| FY2025 | \$7,395                                    | \$5,097 | \$2,880                                 | 57%     | \$17,339      | \$8,064    | 47%     |

## Special Purpose Programs

Additional information about each program in this section is contained in the 2025 ISAC Data Book.

### AIM HIGH

- The Aspirational Institutional Match Helping Illinois Grow Higher Education (AIM HIGH) Grant Program was created to help increase overall Illinois college student retention and slow student outmigration.
- Since the 2019-20 academic year, AIM HIGH has provided merit-based, means-tested student financial aid to first-time, full-time undergraduate students (including transfer students) attending any of the 12 Illinois public four-year universities.
- Institutions are also required to guarantee renewability and predictability for recipients, as well as match AIM HIGH state funds expended each year with new non-loan financial aid above institutional aid distributed in academic year 2017-18 or 2021-22, whichever is less.
- AIM HIGH is forward-funded. The FY2024 appropriation, which increased \$15 million to \$50 million, was for awards made in AY2024-25.

#### AY2024-25 Expenditures

#### AY2024-25 Recipients

| Institution                                | FY24 Final Allocation | AY2024-25 Expenditures |                     | AY2024-25 Recipients |                |                               | Total         |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
|  |                       | State Funds            | Matching Funds      | State Funds          | Matching Funds | Both State and Matching Funds |               |
| Chicago State University                   | \$854,000             | \$815,750              | \$439,250           | 0                    | 0              | 255                           | 255           |
| Eastern Illinois University                | \$1,932,000           | \$1,213,361            | \$1,760,191         | 806                  | 394            | 427                           | 1,627         |
| Governors State University                 | \$1,327,000           | \$1,325,865            | \$804,804           | 324                  | 284            | 39                            | 647           |
| Illinois State University                  | \$8,040,000           | \$8,342,978            | \$15,364,925        | 684                  | 0              | 2,785                         | 3,469         |
| Northeastern Illinois University           | \$1,839,000           | \$1,295,668            | \$1,064,842         | 292                  | 296            | 39                            | 627           |
| Northern Illinois University               | \$5,119,000           | \$2,781,414            | \$2,248,627         | 1,075                | 404            | 276                           | 1,755         |
| Southern Illinois University-Carbondale    | \$3,035,000           | \$2,880,524            | \$2,018,074         | 571                  | 396            | 87                            | 1,054         |
| Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville  | \$4,602,000           | \$3,265,668            | \$2,285,564         | 0                    | 0              | 1,350                         | 1,350         |
| University of Illinois at Chicago          | \$8,434,000           | \$4,562,584            | \$1,596,904         | 571                  | 452            | 0                             | 1,023         |
| University of Illinois at Springfield      | \$1,103,000           | \$714,900              | \$501,549           | 200                  | 0              | 213                           | 413           |
| University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | \$11,538,000          | \$11,969,593           | \$8,379,114         | 2,432                | 2,126          | 0                             | 4,558         |
| Western Illinois University                | \$2,177,000           | \$1,942,917            | \$1,934,605         | 337                  | 903            | 90                            | 1,330         |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>\$50,000,000</b>   | <b>\$41,111,223</b>    | <b>\$38,398,447</b> | <b>7,292</b>         | <b>5,255</b>   | <b>5,561</b>                  | <b>18,108</b> |

**AIM HIGH State Funds**

| Year   | Appropriation | Expenditures | Recipients | Avg. Award |
|--------|---------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$35,000,000  | \$19,927,700 | 6,442      | \$3,093    |
| FY2022 | \$35,000,000  | \$25,938,331 | 8,260      | \$3,140    |
| FY2023 | \$35,000,000  | \$32,047,241 | 10,348     | \$3,097    |
| FY2024 | \$35,000,000  | \$30,773,835 | 9,908      | \$3,106    |
| FY2025 | \$50,000,000  | \$41,111,223 | 12,853     | \$3,199    |

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

- Program was created to address the shortage of qualified early childhood educators by encouraging the pursuit of credentials and advancement of already-held degrees in early childhood education, with an aim toward building a strong, well-prepared workforce.
- Awards are available for undergraduate study (in FY2025) at public and non-profit private 2- and 4-year Gateways-entitled and Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity member institutions, with the focus on renewal students with the most need.
- Although not a conditional grant, recipients of the scholarship are expected to continue or return to teaching or direct services in the early childhood care and education field in Illinois after they complete their program of study.
- The program was federally funded through 2024. FY2025 was the first year of the State-funded Program at \$5 million.

|                     | Public<br>4-Year | Public<br>2-Year | PNFP         | All          |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Expenditures</i> |                  |                  |              |              |
| FY2021              | -                | -                | -            | -            |
| FY2022              | \$1,770,688      | \$1,182,557      | \$2,775,894  | \$5,729,139  |
| FY2023              | \$9,988,004      | \$8,150,169      | \$11,412,482 | \$29,550,655 |
| FY2024              | \$26,021,054     | \$18,991,428     | \$31,399,956 | \$76,412,438 |
| FY2025              | \$1,304,026      | \$1,582,824      | \$1,531,031  | \$4,417,881  |
| <i>Recipients</i>   |                  |                  |              |              |
| FY2021              | -                | -                | -            | -            |
| FY2022              | 119              | 142              | 151          | 412          |
| FY2023              | 544              | 949              | 644          | 2,137        |
| FY2024              | 1,142            | 1,930            | 1,622        | 4,694        |
| FY2025              | 191              | 256              | 246          | 693          |

## Illinois Veteran Grant Program

- Qualifying veterans are exempt from payment of tuition and mandatory fees at public universities and community colleges.
- May be used for any year in school (undergraduate or graduate level). May be used for credit and noncredit work. Recipients are entitled to the equivalent of four years of full-time benefits.
- Funding has been insufficient to cover claims since 2002. Schools have waived costs for eligible students.

|               | Estimated<br>Total Claims | Paid by ISAC | Awards |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Public 4-Year |                           |              |        |
| FY2021        | \$11,213,189              | -            | 1,460  |
| FY2022        | \$9,781,944               | -            | 1,275  |
| FY2023        | \$8,639,299               | -            | 1,114  |
| FY2024        | \$8,390,135               | -            | 1,044  |
| FY2025        | \$8,196,875               | \$3,005,394* | 1,027  |
| Public 2-Year |                           |              |        |
| FY2021        | \$2,135,987               | -            | 1,113  |
| FY2022        | \$1,775,307               | -            | 886    |
| FY2023        | \$1,627,775               | -            | 791    |
| FY2024        | \$1,514,949               | -            | 780    |
| FY2025        | \$1,468,219               | -            | 752    |
| Total         |                           |              |        |
| FY2021        | \$13,349,176              | -            | 2,573  |
| FY2022        | \$11,557,252              | -            | 2,161  |
| FY2023        | \$10,267,074              | -            | 1,905  |
| FY2024        | \$9,905,084               | -            | 1,824  |
| FY2025        | \$9,665,094               | \$3,005,394* | 1,779  |

\*In FY25 Illinois approved \$6 million to reimburse some of the waived tuition and fees at Public Universities

## Illinois National Guard Grant Program

- Qualifying National Guard members are exempt from payment of tuition and mandatory fees at public universities and community colleges.
- May be used for any year in school (undergraduate or graduate level). May be used for credit and noncredit work.
- Beginning with the 2013-14 academic year, members who have completed less than ten years of active duty can use the grant for a maximum of four academic years of full-time enrollment. Once ten years or more of active-duty ING service has been completed, the grant can be used for a maximum of six academic years of full-time enrollment.
- Funding has been insufficient to cover claims since 2003. Schools have waived costs for eligible students.

|                      | Estimated<br>Total Claims | Paid by ISAC | Awards |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------|
| <b>Public 4-Year</b> |                           |              |        |
| FY2021               | \$10,367,254              | -            | 1,319  |
| FY2022               | \$11,819,366              | -            | 1,324  |
| FY2023               | \$11,960,804              | -            | 1,362  |
| FY2024               | \$11,615,512              | -            | 1,300  |
| FY2025               | \$10,711,305              | \$2,994,606* | 1,179  |
| <b>Public 2-Year</b> |                           |              |        |
| FY2021               | \$1,899,164               | -            | 757    |
| FY2022               | \$2,071,670               | -            | 840    |
| FY2023               | \$1,803,544               | -            | 720    |
| FY2024               | \$1,817,621               | -            | 683    |
| FY2025               | \$1,655,314               | -            | 626    |
| <b>Total</b>         |                           |              |        |
| FY2021               | \$12,536,419              | -            | 2,076  |
| FY2022               | \$13,891,037              | -            | 2,164  |
| FY2023               | \$13,764,348              | -            | 2,082  |
| FY2024               | \$13,433,133              | -            | 1,983  |
| FY2025               | \$12,366,619              | \$2,994,606* | 1,805  |

\*In FY25 Illinois approved \$6 million to reimburse some of the waived tuition and fees at Public Universities

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) receives an appropriation to reimburse community colleges for costs associated with waiving student tuition and fees under the IVG and ING programs. Beginning in FY20 this appropriation has been applied to the combined program claims.

| Year   | Legislative<br>Appropriation | ICCB Payments to<br>Schools |
|--------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FY2021 | \$4,264,400                  | \$2,754,319                 |
| FY2022 | \$4,264,400                  | \$3,822,165                 |
| FY2023 | \$4,264,400                  | \$3,419,297                 |
| FY2024 | \$4,264,400                  | \$3,332,570                 |
| FY2025 | \$4,264,400                  | \$3,123,529                 |

More detail on ICCB payments including reimbursement levels by institution is available on the ISAC Web site in the Research and Policy section on the Program Data page.

### Grant Program for Dependents of Police, Fire, or Correctional Officers

- Serves children and spouses of officers killed or 90% disabled in the line of duty.
- The majority of awards are for dependents of police officers.

|                     | Public<br>4-Year | Public<br>2-Year | PNFP      | Proprietary | All       |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| <i>Expenditures</i> |                  |                  |           |             |           |
| FY2021              | \$324,591        | \$21,531         | \$364,135 | \$23,514    | \$733,771 |
| FY2022              | \$356,169        | \$54,971         | \$346,767 | \$15,319    | \$773,225 |
| FY2023              | \$349,229        | \$54,549         | \$377,139 | -           | \$780,917 |
| FY2024              | \$461,603        | \$37,834         | \$423,837 | -           | \$923,274 |
| FY2025              | \$486,811        | \$19,932         | \$381,560 | \$24,412    | \$912,715 |
| <i>Recipients</i>   |                  |                  |           |             |           |
| FY2021              | 29               | 7                | 21        | 1           | 58        |
| FY2022              | 28               | 12               | 22        | 1           | 63        |
| FY2023              | 29               | 11               | 21        | -           | 61        |
| FY2024              | 34               | 20               | 10        | -           | 64        |
| FY2025              | 38               | 6                | 19        | 1           | 64        |

### Higher Education License Plate Program

- Collegiate license plates are one type of specialty plate issued in Illinois. Public institutions with collegiate plates can draw the funds from license plate sales directly from the Comptroller's Office. HELP allows ISAC to be the conduit to the funds for private institutions.
- \$25 of each license plate sale for a school is placed into a fund for each participating school.
- Awards are need-based and may be for up to \$2,000 annually for full-time study. The actual number of recipients is not known - an average award of \$250 is used to estimate recipients.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$99,950     | 400        |
| FY2022 | \$93,000     | 372        |
| FY2023 | \$94,300     | 377        |
| FY2024 | \$85,775     | 343        |
| FY2025 | \$89,900     | 360        |

### Grant Program for Exonerees

- Provides grants for up to the cost of tuition and fees to persons who have been issued a pardon by the Governor of the State of Illinois on the grounds of innocence of the crime for which they had been imprisoned or who have received a certificate of innocence from a circuit court. First funded in FY20.
- Benefits may be used for the cost of obtaining a high school equivalency certificate, to meet the costs of postsecondary enrollment at an Illinois public university or community college, or, beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, for attending a private, not-for-profit college or university in this State.
- Qualified applicants may receive program benefits for the equivalent of four regular school years (eight semesters) of full-time enrollment. Beginning in 2025-26, an exoneree who has not exhausted his or her benefits may designate one or more dependents to use the benefits.
- There was 1 applicant in 2025 who was found not to be eligible.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$5,827      | 1          |
| FY2022 | \$4,922      | 1          |
| FY2023 | -            | -          |
| FY2024 | -            | -          |
| FY2025 | -            | -          |

### Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- Provides awards for the dependents of eligible displaced energy workers as the state's mix of energy sources changes Awards are limited to one year of full-time study. First funded in 2023.
- There was 1 applicant for 2025.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | -            | -          |
| FY2022 | -            | -          |
| FY2023 | -            | -          |
| FY2024 | \$14,119     | 1          |
| FY2025 | \$7,996      | 1          |

### Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

- Encourages minority students to become teachers. Depending on the appropriation level, up to 35% of funds may be reserved for minority males and up to 10% of funds may be reserved for qualified bilingual applicants.
- Recipients agree to teach for 1 year for each year of aid received or must repay.

|                     | Public<br>4-Year | Public<br>2-Year | PNFP        | Proprietary | All         |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Expenditures</i> |                  |                  |             |             |             |
| FY2021              | \$727,500        | \$13,437         | \$1,056,128 | -           | \$1,797,065 |
| FY2022              | \$722,871        | \$20,271         | \$1,018,296 | -           | \$1,761,438 |
| FY2023              | \$1,545,641      | \$16,250         | \$2,433,247 | -           | \$3,995,138 |
| FY2024              | \$2,466,618      | \$21,195         | \$3,839,883 | -           | \$6,327,696 |
| FY2025              | \$2,913,225      | \$104,073        | \$4,743,844 | -           | \$7,761,142 |
| <i>Recipients</i>   |                  |                  |             |             |             |
| FY2021              | 152              | 4                | 223         | -           | 379         |
| FY2022              | 153              | 5                | 207         | -           | 365         |
| FY2023              | 218              | 3                | 345         | -           | 566         |
| FY2024              | 345              | 4                | 551         | -           | 900         |
| FY2025              | 408              | 19               | 669         | -           | 1,096       |

### Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program

- Conditional grants for high school graduates to teach in high-need schools throughout Illinois.
- Awards \$5,000 annually for up to 4 years with a teaching commitment of five years; converts to loans if commitment is not met.
- ISAC does not select the recipients or provide recipient support; this is completed by the Golden Apple Foundation.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$2,450,002  | 646        |
| FY2022 | \$2,876,540  | 711        |
| FY2023 | \$2,860,139  | 750        |
| FY2024 | \$2,682,315  | 731        |
| FY2025 | \$3,180,581  | 871        |

### Nursing Education Scholarships

- Program previously administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health. First year of awards under ISAC was FY2023.
- Conditional grants for students pursuing a certificate in practical nursing, an associate degree in nursing, a hospital-based diploma in nursing, or a bachelor's or graduate degree in nursing.
- Awards pay a portion of tuition and fees (and a living allowance for full-time students) with a teaching commitment equal to the awarded period, converting to a loan if the commitment is not met.

|                     | Public<br>4-Year | Public<br>2-Year | PNFP        | Proprietary | All         |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Expenditures</i> |                  |                  |             |             |             |
| FY2021              | -                | -                | -           | -           | -           |
| FY2022              | -                | -                | -           | -           | -           |
| FY2023              | \$308,223        | \$32,598         | \$930,748   | \$768,348   | \$2,039,918 |
| FY2024              | \$316,571        | \$59,977         | \$1,057,902 | \$1,347,652 | \$2,782,102 |
| FY2025              | \$472,229        | \$52,903         | \$1,082,481 | \$1,401,441 | \$3,009,054 |
| <i>Recipients</i>   |                  |                  |             |             |             |
| FY2021              | -                | -                | -           | -           | -           |
| FY2022              | -                | -                | -           | -           | -           |
| FY2023              | 32               | 10               | 71          | 80          | 193         |
| FY2024              | 32               | 11               | 74          | 114         | 231         |
| FY2025              | 33               | 11               | 77          | 116         | 237         |

#### 2025 Awards by Degree Type

| Degree Type                      | Expenditures | Recipients |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Certificate in Practical Nursing | \$164,882    | 20         |
| Associate Degree in Nursing      | \$956,600    | 72         |
| Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing  | \$1,181,681  | 97         |
| Graduate Degree in Nursing       | \$705,891    | 48         |
| Total                            | \$3,009,054  | 237        |

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

- Provides conditional grant assistance to licensed social workers with master's degrees in social work who wish to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License with an Endorsement in School Social Work.
- Designed to encourage students to work as social workers in Illinois schools. Up to 250 awards per year.
- Participants agree to work as a social worker in a qualified nonprofit Illinois public, private or parochial preschool, elementary or secondary school.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | -            | -          |
| FY2022 | -            | -          |
| FY2023 | \$172,099    | 40         |
| FY2024 | \$100,127    | 16         |
| FY2025 | \$89,031     | 15         |

### Optometric Education Scholarship Program

- Program funded by licensing and disciplinary fees.
- Recipients must be enrolled full-time and agree to practice in Illinois as a licensed optometrist for one year for each year of aid. Scholarships are limited to ten per year.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$50,000     | 10         |
| FY2022 | \$50,000     | 10         |
| FY2023 | \$50,000     | 10         |
| FY2024 | \$50,000     | 10         |
| FY2025 | \$50,000     | 10         |

### Illinois Graduate and Retain our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program

- Program provides scholarship assistance to Illinois students pursuing IT and related careers.
- Recipients must be enrolled in a qualifying degree program and agree to work in Illinois for at least two years after graduation.
- Program was first funded in FY2025.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | -            | -          |
| FY2022 | -            | -          |
| FY2023 | -            | -          |
| FY2024 | -            | -          |
| FY2025 | \$1,312,807  | 182        |

### Prepare for Illinois' Future Test Preparation Program

- Provides free test preparation for graduate and professional school admission tests and professional licensure exams. The program serves students at all public universities and five pilot community colleges.
- Program was first funded in FY2024 but fully launched in FY2025.

| Year   | Appropriation | Students Served | Dollars Saved for Students |
|--------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| FY2021 | -             | -               | -                          |
| FY2022 | -             | -               | -                          |
| FY2023 | -             | -               | -                          |
| FY2024 | \$10,000,000  | -               | -                          |
| FY2025 | \$9,988,350   | 5,092           | \$11,293,260               |

### Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program

- Provides loan repayment assistance to qualified mental health and substance use professionals.
- Designed as incentive for recruitment and retention of those who practice in underserved or rural areas and to seek to address the shortage of Illinois community-based behavioral health workers.
- The amount of the annual award to qualified applicants to repay their student loan debt is based on their position, and the award may be received for up to four years.
- First funded in 2023.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | -            | -          |
| FY2022 | -            | -          |
| FY2023 | \$1,792,047  | 257        |
| FY2024 | \$1,820,931  | 256        |
| FY2025 | \$6,948,944  | 562        |

### School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

- Intended to encourage Illinois students to work as social workers in public school districts and Illinois municipalities.
- The program is intended to assist in paying eligible loans as an incentive to participate in the social work field.
- A one-time award of up to \$6,500 is available.
- First funded in 2023.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | -            | -          |
| FY2022 | -            | -          |
| FY2023 | \$516,465    | 81         |
| FY2024 | \$1,299,728  | 224        |
| FY2025 | \$303,089    | 47         |

### Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program

- Pays up to \$5,000 annually to qualified nurse educators to repay their student loan debt for up to four years.
- Must work as a nurse instructor in an Illinois institution for at least 12 consecutive months prior to application.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$263,945    | 53         |
| FY2022 | \$263,379    | 54         |
| FY2023 | \$386,298    | 79         |
| FY2024 | \$303,425    | 62         |
| FY2025 | \$233,926    | 47         |

### Illinois Teachers and Child Care Providers Loan Repayment Program

- Provides loan forgiveness to teachers qualifying for federal loan forgiveness. The childcare provider portion of the program is inactive as the corresponding federal loan forgiveness program was discontinued.
- Recipients can receive an additional matching grant of up to \$5,000 for teaching in a qualifying Illinois school.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$439,900    | 90         |
| FY2022 | \$439,900    | 96         |
| FY2023 | \$302,397    | 64         |
| FY2024 | \$344,384    | 71         |
| FY2025 | \$202,224    | 45         |

### John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program

- Pays annual awards up to \$4,000, with an aggregate total of up to \$60,000, for qualified state and federal public defenders and state prosecutors to repay their student loan debt.
- Recipients must agree to remain in their positions for at least three years, or any amount received must be repaid.
- The number of awards and individual dollar amounts are subject to sufficient annual appropriations by the federal government.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$56,642     | 17         |
| FY2022 | \$56,680     | 10         |
| FY2023 | \$133,036    | 13         |
| FY2024 | \$179,023    | 30         |
| FY2025 | \$80,792     | 15         |

### Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment Program

- Pays up to \$5,000 annually for up to four years on eligible student loans to encourage medical providers to work at State of Illinois Veterans' Homes.
- Recipients must agree to work for one year as a medical provider in a State of Illinois Veterans' Home for each year of loan repayment.

| Year   | Expenditures | Recipients |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| FY2021 | \$26,400     | 10         |
| FY2022 | \$26,400     | 6          |
| FY2023 | \$26,400     | 11         |
| FY2024 | \$26,329     | 6          |
| FY2025 | \$26,400     | 7          |

### Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

- Annually provides 250 four-year waivers of tuition and fees at an Illinois public university for students seeking to become Special Education teachers.
- Of the 250 waivers that may be awarded, 210 are designated for current and prior high school students and 40 are reserved for already-licensed teachers seeking an endorsement to teach Special Education.
- Recipients must agree to teach after receiving assistance or repay the assistance as a loan.

| Year   | Recipients |
|--------|------------|
| FY2021 | 250        |
| FY2022 | 250        |
| FY2023 | 250        |
| FY2024 | 250        |
| FY2025 | 250        |

### Illinois State Scholars

- Recognizes students attending approved high schools (typically, Illinois public high schools) for outstanding academic achievement.
- Perform in the top one-half of high school class at the end of the third semester prior to graduation, and/or score at or above the 95th percentile on the ACT or SAT
- Approximately the top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year.

| Year   | Recipients |
|--------|------------|
| FY2021 | 17,382     |
| FY2022 | 17,344     |
| FY2023 | 16,777     |
| FY2024 | 16,682     |
| FY2025 | 16,568     |

### College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program

- College Illinois! is a tax-advantaged plan that secures future semesters of college tuition at rates set at the time of purchase. The plan offered a 3-tiered system that allowed the purchaser to select plans with prices based on tuition and mandatory fees at three higher education settings.
- Contract benefits can be used at eligible institutions of higher learning anywhere in the United States.
- Earnings are exempt from federal and Illinois income taxes.

#### College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program Cumulative Utilization of Program Benefits

| Benefits Paid by Sector | FY2021          | FY2022          | FY2023          | FY2024          | FY2025          |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| IL Public 4-Year        | \$638,801,509   | \$676,561,032   | \$709,085,402   | \$737,710,846   | \$763,277,470   |
| IL Public 2-Year        | \$30,006,305    | \$31,359,542    | \$32,823,127    | \$33,955,511    | \$34,916,728    |
| IL Private              | \$220,218,949   | \$232,823,509   | \$243,792,083   | \$252,700,824   | \$260,091,240   |
| Out-of-State            | \$558,791,681   | \$607,599,907   | \$652,939,597   | \$694,735,025   | \$730,785,062   |
| Total                   | \$1,447,818,444 | \$1,548,343,990 | \$1,638,640,209 | \$1,719,102,206 | \$1,789,070,500 |

Basic ISAC Program Data 2025 | December 2025

| Students by Sector | FY2021 | FY2022 | FY2023 | FY2024 | FY2025 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| IL Public 4-Year   | 19,065 | 20,890 | 21,579 | 22,120 | 22,657 |
| IL Public 2-Year   | 6,485  | 7,323  | 7,557  | 7,756  | 7,908  |
| IL Private         | 7,712  | 8,428  | 8,699  | 8,930  | 9,152  |
| Out-of-State       | 17,764 | 19,732 | 20,849 | 21,794 | 22,556 |

Student recipient numbers are duplicated across sectors and should not be summed. A student who used benefits at both a university and a community college in the same year may be counted twice.

### Outreach Services

- ISAC College Access Services conducted more than 3,200 workshops, presentations, fairs, sessions, and other events on college going and financial aid processes in 2025, reaching more than 68,100 Illinois students, parents, and professionals.

|  | FY2021 | FY2022 | FY2023 | FY2024 | FY2025 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <u>Activity</u>                          |        |        |        |        |        |
| Professional Development Workshops       | 130    | 143    | 192    | 188    | 95     |
| Financial Aid Presentations              | 620    | 620    | 633    | 680    | 616    |
| FAFSA Completion Workshops               | 1,153  | 926    | 864    | 891    | 1,130  |
| College Fairs                            | 14     | 71     | 91     | 123    | 144    |
| College Prep Sessions                    | 582    | 498    | 556    | 568    | 621    |
| Other Events                             | 457    | 624    | 614    | 605    | 622    |
| <u>Attendance at Outreach Events</u>     |        |        |        |        |        |
| Students                                 | 28,000 | 43,000 | 43,000 | 37,500 | 44,000 |
| Parents                                  | 14,500 | 17,000 | 17,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Professionals                            | 2,500  | 2,400  | 8,148  | 5,812  | 4,104  |
| FAFSA Completion Initiative Participants | 67.0%  | 72.0%  | 71.3%  | 68.7%  | 71.5%  |