

A Quick Trip Through ISAC's New Programs & a Review of the Classics

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Stephanie Claudio





A Quick Trip Through ISAC's New Programs

Nursing Education Scholarships (NES)

- The 2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) appropriation for the program is \$4,000,000.
- The goal of the NES program is to increase the number of nurses available for employment in Illinois.
- The program provides scholarship assistance to those who are 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.
- The scholarship pays for coursework within the nursing curriculum but does not pay for pre-requisite coursework.



Overview of NES

- The number of years a recipient may receive funding from this program is based on the certificate, diploma, or degree being pursued.

<i>Certificate, Diploma, or Degree Pursued:</i>	<i>Maximum Years of Scholarship Assistance:</i>
Certificate in Practical Nursing	One Academic Year
Associate Degree in Nursing	Two Academic Years
Hospital-Based Diploma in Nursing	Three Academic Years
Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing	Four Academic Years
Graduate Degree in Nursing	Five Academic Years
Graduate Degree in Nursing to become a Nurse Educator	Three Academic Years

- If a recipient completed a certificate, diploma, or degree program for which they received the NES, and are now pursuing a higher-level of education, their maximum available years of the NES is based on the new degree being pursued.
 - For example, now pursuing a baccalaureate degree after receiving assistance for an associate degree. The number of years of assistance previously received do not count toward the new maximum.

Overview of NES


- The total amount of NES assistance awarded to an eligible applicant in a given academic year, when added to other financial aid available to the student, cannot exceed the cost of attendance.
- The scholarship amount requested by the college may include both tuition and fees and a living allowance.
- Full-time students may receive a living allowance.
 - Part-time students are not eligible for a living allowance.
- Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the school.
- Scholarship funds may be used during all terms of study (including summer).
- NES Overview: isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/NESP-overview.html

Eligibility - NES

- An applicant must:
 - be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen or meet the "undocumented student" criteria of the RISE Act
 - be an Illinois resident for at least one year prior to the date of application
 - be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a nursing program in Illinois that is approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or the Illinois Board of Higher Education
 - demonstrate financial need
 - maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the college
 - establish satisfactory repayment arrangements if in default on any federal student loan
 - sign an Application/Promissory Note/Work Agreement promising to fulfill the employment commitment or repay funds received, plus interest

Application Process - NES

- Students may access the Application/Work Agreement/Promissory Note via the Program Applications & Status Checks area of the ISAC Student Portal.
- The application period each year is March 1 through April 30.



The screenshot shows the ISAC Student Portal website. The header includes the ISAC Student Portal logo, navigation links (Resources, Toolbox, ISACorps, Program Applications & Status Checks, Now Playing, Login), and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. The main heading is 'PROGRAM APPLICATIONS & STATUS CHECKS' with a sub-heading 'Apply for and check the status of your financial aid programs. Find applications and information for Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) and other State of Illinois programs here.' Below this, there are three columns for the Nursing Education Scholarship Program (NESP). Each column has the text 'Nursing Education Scholarship Program' and 'NESP' in large green letters. The first column has a button 'Apply here'. The second column has a button 'Print & Sign your Application'. The third column has a button 'Print & Sign your grant agreement/promissory note'.



Application Process - NES

- Applicants must complete and submit an Application/Promissory Note/Work Agreement each year to be considered for an award.
- Applicants must submit a FAFSA or Alternative Application and have a valid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) or Student Aid Index (SAI) calculated for the same award year.
- After an application is submitted, applicants will immediately receive an email confirming that their application was received.
 - Processing time may be up to 4 weeks.
- If an application is incomplete, the applicant will receive a letter from ISAC explaining the reason(s) and advising how to resolve.
- If an applicant needs to change their response(s) to any item(s) and/or update any information after the application has been submitted, they will need to provide the information to ISAC in writing.
 - Changes can be sent via e-mail, fax or letter to Student Services.

Certification Process - NES

- A Certification record is created in the NES system within GAP Access after the online application process has been completed and certification functionality becomes available for the academic year.
- A list of qualified scholarship applicants are provided to participating colleges in GAP Access.
- Certification is completed by the colleges, indicating if the student is eligible or ineligible for the award year.
 - Certification information is provided for the entire award year (rather than by term).
- A complete application and a complete eligible Certification record are required for consideration for an award.
- Colleges must complete and submit the Certification record for each applicant, regardless of whether the student is eligible or ineligible.
- The only way an applicant will receive one of the notification letters is if the Certification is submitted.

Certification Process - NES

- Awarding does not take place until the Certification process has been completed.
- If a student is eligible, schools must report their program of study, anticipated graduation date, and EFC (or SAI).
- If a student is ineligible, schools must select a reason from the drop-down menu.
- Only records that need to be certified will appear on the “Certification List: View” screen.
- Once a record has been certified it will continue to appear on the “Student List Eligibility: View” screen, but not the “Certification List: View” screen.
- If a student’s eligibility changes and revisions need to be made to a student record after it has been certified, the school must contact ISAC’s School Services Department.

Award Determination - NES

- The certificate, diploma or degree being pursued by the student determines the NES maximum award amount and the maximum number of years the award may be received, and award amounts differ by type of college.
- 2023-24 NES maximum annual award amount is either \$8,916 or \$17,813.

\$8,916 Maximum Award	\$17,813 Maximum Award
certificate in practical nursing * any school type * one year of assistance	associate degree in nursing * two-year private colleges or four-year colleges/universities * two years of assistance
associate degree in nursing * community colleges or nursing schools * two years of assistance	baccalaureate degree in nursing * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * four years of assistance
hospital-based diploma in nursing * community colleges * three years of assistance	graduate degree in nursing * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * five years of assistance
	graduate degree in nursing to become a nurse educator * four-year public or private colleges/universities or nursing schools * three years of assistance

Award Determination - NES

- The number of scholarships awarded is based on the number of eligible applicants and the state's appropriation for the program.
- After colleges have completed the Certification process, the award determination process can begin.
- All timely applicants whose schools have certified their eligibility by the requested ISAC receipt date are included in each academic year's awarding process.
- Scholarships will first be awarded to renewal applicants who continue to meet all of the program's eligibility requirements.
- If funds remain after all qualified renewal applicants have been awarded, then awards will be made to eligible new applicants within categories, based on the priority order specified by the program.

Award Determination - NES

- Based on the certification data submitted by the college, ISAC proceeds with the awarding process and sends the appropriate notification to each applicant.
- ISAC sends eligible NES applicants one of the following notifications:
 - **Eligible - Funded** – students who are eligible for the award
 - **Eligible - Unavailable Funds** – students who are eligible for the award, but for whom funds are not available
- Applicants determined to be ineligible for the award receive a **Notice of Ineligibility** letter and have the option to appeal the denial.

Award Determination for Nursing Education Scholarships

{ISAC Rules, Section 2749.220}

Overview

Student Award Announcements

Award Amount and Years of Funding

The total number of scholarships awarded each year is contingent upon the funding provided by the Illinois General Assembly.

All timely applicants whose colleges or universities have certified their eligibility and whose ISAC receipt date are included in each academic year's awarding process.

When appropriated funds for this program are insufficient to provide scholarships for all eligible applicants during any fiscal year, available funds will be awarded to qualified applicants who submit complete timely applications (i.e., the complete NES application is submitted and the application is based on the following priority order:

1. Scholarships will first be awarded to *renewal applicants* who continue to meet the program's eligibility requirements. An applicant is considered a renewal applicant if they received funds from the program for which they are reapplying.
2. If funds remain after all qualified renewal applicants have been awarded, then awards will be made to eligible *new applicants* in the categories listed below:

Degree Types	Approximate Percentage of Available Awards
Graduate Degree in Nursing Graduate Degree in Nursing (to become a Nurse Educator)	20%
Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing	40%
Associate Degree in Nursing Hospital-based Diploma in Nursing	30%
Certificate in Practical Nursing	10%

Note: to the extent that the applicant pool allows, the following is the priority order used to determine awards for *new applicants* within each of the above categories:

1. Lowest to highest expected family contribution (EFC), as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) or the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application)
2. Anticipated graduation date for current program of study
3. Date on which complete NES application was received by ISAC

Student Award Announcements

Based on the eligibility [certification](#) data submitted by the college, as well as the above factors, ISAC proceeds with the awarding process and sends the appropriate notification to each applicant.

ISAC sends eligible NES applicants one of the following notifications:

- **Eligible - Funded** – students who are eligible for the award
- **Eligible - Unavailable Funds** – students who are eligible for the award, but for whom funds are not available

Applicants determined to be ineligible for the award receive a [Notice of Ineligibility](#), and have the option to appeal the denial.

isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/NESP/awarding.html



Date

NES-500

College Reported on your application
COLLEGE NAME

FIRST NAME LAST NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

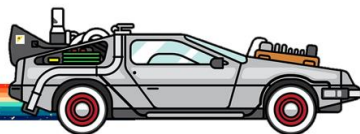
**NURSING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
NOTICE OF INSUFFICIENT FUNDING**

This letter is to inform you that, due to insufficient funding, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) cannot award you a 2023-24 Nursing Education Scholarship.

Because you meet the requirements of the program and are considered a qualified applicant, your application will remain on file. You will be contacted again should sufficient funds become available to make an award to you later this academic year.

ISAC administers other scholarship and grant programs that can provide financial assistance to help you pay for college. To learn more about the financial aid process and available programs, visit our website at isac.org. You may also communicate directly with an ISAC Call Center Representative via telephone at 800.899.ISAC (4722) or e-mail at isac.studentservices@illinois.gov.

Applicant Services Department
Program Services and Compliance Division



Date

NES-200

College Reported on your application
COLLEGE NAME

FIRST NAME LAST NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

**NURSING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY**

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is pleased to announce that you have been awarded a 2023-24 Nursing Education Scholarship.

Next Steps:

- The award will be paid directly to the above-named college. Please review the college information for accuracy and immediately notify our office, in writing, of any corrections needed.
- The amount of your award will include a portion of your tuition and fee costs, plus, if eligible, a living allowance (previously referred to as a stipend). Contact the financial aid office of your college for the exact amount.
- Your college will verify your enrollment and the eligibility of the program in which you are enrolled.
- If your college determines you are not eligible, you will receive a Notice of Ineligibility after your college reports your status to ISAC.
- Questions about your eligibility and the disbursement of funds should be directed to the financial aid office of your college.
- If you fail to meet any of the eligibility requirements during the academic year, the entire scholarship or a portion of the scholarship funds may be forfeited.
- By receiving any or all of this scholarship, you agree to fulfill the work commitment that is outlined on the application/grant agreement/promissory note. If this work commitment is not fulfilled within the required time for the program, the amount awarded converts to a loan that must be repaid with interest.
- You are obligated to report any changes to your name, address, college of attendance or enrollment status to ISAC within ten days of the change.

ISAC administers other scholarship and grant programs that can provide financial assistance to help you pay for college. To learn more about the financial aid process and available programs, visit our website at isac.org. You may also communicate directly with an ISAC Call Center Representative via telephone at 800.899.ISAC (4722) or e-mail at isac.studentservices@illinois.gov.

Applicant Services Department
Program Services and Compliance Division



[Date]

NES-400

[First Name] [Last Name]

[Permanent Address (line 1)]

[Permanent Address (line 2)]

[City][State][Zip Code]

**NURSING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
NOTICE OF INELIGIBILITY**

This letter is to inform you that the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has determined you are not eligible to receive a 2023-24 Nursing Education Scholarship award. This determination is based on information provided by the below-named college.

College Attending: [College reported on your application]

Reason for Ineligibility:

[Ineligibility reasons listed here]

This notification replaces any previous ISAC correspondence regarding your eligibility for the 2023-24 academic year.

Next Steps:

- It is your responsibility to report changes or corrections regarding your eligibility status to your college. Certification of your eligibility must be submitted to ISAC directly from the college. A change in eligibility status does not guarantee that you will receive an award. If, after working with your college to process any corrections, you wish to appeal this decision, you must submit a written appeal to ISAC within 60 days after the date of this letter. Refer to the enclosed "ISAC Appeal Procedures."
- You must immediately notify ISAC, in writing, of any changes to your permanent address, phone number, and/or your request to be considered for this scholarship.
- If the above-named college is not the college you will attend, you must submit a request to ISAC to change your college choice. If this change would impact your eligibility status, ISAC will contact the new college for updated certification information.
- All ISAC scholarships are limited based on the number of eligible applicants and funding availability. Therefore, you are encouraged to continue seeking additional financial aid resources to fund your educational expenses.

ISAC administers other scholarship and grant programs that can provide financial assistance to help you pay for college. To learn more about the financial aid process and available programs, visit our website at isac.org. You may also communicate directly with an ISAC Call Center Representative via telephone at 800.899.ISAC (4722) or e-mail at isac.studentservices@illinois.gov.

Applicant Services Department
Program Services and Compliance Division

Enclosure: ISAC Appeal Procedures

Payment Process - NES

- Payment request (claim) process is completed in the NES system in GAP Access and is similar to other ISAC programs.
- Only students who have been awarded will appear on the **Student Payment List: View** screen.
- For each awarded student, schools can request a **Tuition and Fees** amount, and a **Living Allowance** amount for students who are enrolled full-time.
- Payment requests are submitted for individual students by term.
 - Payment requests are processed on a nightly basis every weekday, with results available the following business day.

Payment Process - NES

- Schools will report the enrollment status and number of hours enrolled.
- Two fields will be available for entry:
 - Tuition and Fee amount
 - Amount entered after all other tuition and fee
 - Living Allowance amount
 - If the enrollment status is not full-time, this field will be grayed-out and data cannot be entered
- If an awarded student becomes ineligible, schools will need to provide an ineligible reason from the drop-down menu.
- Submitting payment requests is a two-step process, which involves *generating* the individual requests and then *submitting* the requests.
- By submitting a payment request, schools are certifying that the student meets all eligibility criteria.



Payment Process - NES



- Awards are made in multiple disbursements
 - For full-year awards,
 - semester schools receive two disbursements (fall and spring);
 - quarter schools receive three disbursements (fall, winter and spring).
- Schools may request a payment (claim) for any amount in the term(s) as long as it does not exceed the maximum annual amount awarded to the student and does not exceed the cost of attendance.
- If a student has not used their total annual award amount during the fall and spring semesters (or the fall, winter and spring quarters), a summer term disbursement option will be added to their record later in the year.
- Multiple disbursements are not required in cases where the recipient's eligibility is not determined until the final term of the award year for which the scholarship is being awarded.
- If the student has applied for or is enrolled in a term(s) which is less than the award year, they may receive the full maximum annual award amount if warranted by the cost of attendance for the term(s) enrolled.

Payment Process - NES

- ISAC will authorize a voucher in the amount of the payment request (claim) and submit the voucher to the State Comptroller's Office.
 - Funds are issued by the State Comptroller directly to the institution.
 - Reports for tracking payment vouchers and warrants will be available in the NES system.
 - Funds are provided electronically or as a check, depending on how your college is set up.
- Payment requests (claims) will be disbursed to the college in one lump sum, so that NES funds can be credited to student accounts rather than as individual checks for each student.
- Payment offset and reconciliation procedures will apply to NES.
 - Any cancellations/adjustments to payment requests (claims) made throughout the award year will offset additional payments to the college during the year.
- Funds should only be returned to ISAC after a final reconciliation has been completed at the end of the regular school year.
- Payment Offset and Reconciliation: isac.org/faas/processes/refunds-and-unpaid-claims/payment-offset-and-reconciliation-map.html

Program Requirements - NES

- The applicant must sign an agreement promising to begin full- or part-time employment as a licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, or a nurse educator in Illinois within six months of graduating and remain employed for a period equivalent to the educational time supported by the scholarship.
- Applicants who have other scholarships or loan funds that require a service commitment that prevents them from meeting the obligation requirements of the program are ineligible to receive scholarship funds.
- If the recipient terminates studies, or fails to become employed, they will be required to repay the full scholarship amount, plus interest.
- Program Requirements: isac.org/students/after-college/program-requirements/index.html#NESP

- The NES User Guide has been updated to reflect the 2023-24 process.
- isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/pdf/NESUserGuide.pdf



Nursing Education Scholarships (NES) Program

2023-24

User Guide



December 2023

Current Update - NES

- Schools may submit payment requests (claims) for the fall, winter and spring terms in the NES system in GAP Access.
- Priority claim dates for each term will be announced once they have been determined.
- The timely submission of claims and cancellations/adjustments allows ISAC staff to monitor remaining funds and award other students.
- By submitting a payment request, schools are certifying that the student meets all eligibility criteria.
- If an awarded student becomes ineligible, schools will need to provide an ineligible reason from the drop-down menu.

Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

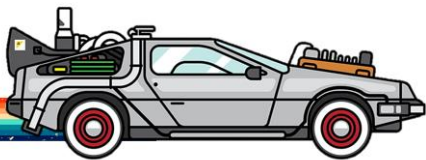
- The 2024 fiscal year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, appropriation is \$1,100,000.
- Provides scholarship assistance to children (including adopted and stepchildren) of eligible displaced energy workers.
- Designed to support students who are deterred from attending or completing an educational program at an Illinois institution due to a parent's layoff from a retiring power plant or a closing coal mine.
- Pays tuition and fee costs at a public college or community college for the equivalent of one calendar year, including summer, for undergraduate or graduate study.
- Applicant does not need to 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.
- The award amount will not exceed the cost of tuition and fees at the institution.

Eligibility - Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- To qualify, applicants must be:
 - a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen or meet the "undocumented student" criteria of the RISE Act
 - 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
 - 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
 - in the absence of transition scholarship assistance, deterred by financial considerations from completing an educational program at the Illinois public university or community college of choice, as shown by there being unmet need in their financial aid package
 - must be meeting satisfactory academic progress towards a degree or certificate

Application Process - Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- Students may access the Application at the Program Applications & Status Checks area of the ISAC Student Portal.
- An application must be submitted each time the student is requesting an award.
 - FAFSA® or Alternative Application must also be completed for same award year.
- First time applicants will include biographical information regarding the eligible displaced energy worker.
 - Once eligibility is established regarding the displaced worker, it is established for all subsequent applications.

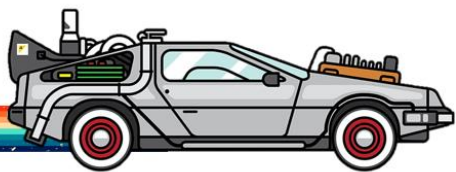


Application Process - Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- An application must be submitted based on the first term the applicant wants to receive funds for the academic year.
 - October 1 – 1st term only or full year consideration
 - March 1 – 2nd semester (2nd/3rd quarter) only or 2nd semester (2nd/3rd quarter) and summer term consideration
 - June 15 – summer term only consideration
- The online application will have built-in edits to prevent errors, and ISAC will send immediate confirmation to the applicant's e-mail address that their application has been received.
- ISAC sends immediate confirmation to the applicant's e-mail address to confirm application was received.
- If the application is incomplete, including any required documentation that is missing, the applicant will receive a letter from ISAC explaining the reason(s) and advising how to resolve the issue.

Payment Process - Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- Awards are made in multiple disbursements.
 - For full-year awards,
 - semester schools may receive three disbursements (fall, spring, summer);
 - quarter schools may receive four disbursements (fall, winter, spring, summer).
- Multiple disbursements are not required in cases where the recipient's eligibility is not determined until the final term of the award year for which the scholarship is being awarded.
- Schools may request a payment (claim) for any amount in the term(s) as long as it does not exceed the maximum awarded amount to the student and does not exceed the cost of attendance.



Payment Process - Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- A Certification of Enrollment for Payment Roster will be sent to your college to be completed as part of the payment process.
- Colleges will receive the Certification of Enrollment for Payment Roster each term following each term's application deadline date.
- ISAC will then authorize a voucher in the amount of the payment claim and submits it to the State Comptroller's Office.
- If a recipient withdraws from enrollment after the expiration of the tuition refund/withdrawal adjustment period, the recipient may receive a scholarship for costs incurred.
- A recipient shall agree to notify ISAC, in writing, within 15 days of any change affecting their enrollment status, name or address.

Post-MSW School Social Work Professional Educator License Scholarship Program (SWSP)

- The 2024 fiscal year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, appropriation is \$6,000,000.
- Provides scholarship 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.
- Program was designed to encourage students to work as social workers in Illinois schools.
- Provide minority children with access to a greater number of positive minority role models, more reflective of the diversity of Illinois students.



Eligibility - SWSP



- To qualify, applicant's must:
 - a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen or meet the "undocumented student" criteria of the RISE Act
 - hold a valid Illinois clinical social work license or social work license
 - have obtained a master's degree in social work from an approved program
 - take courses to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License with an Endorsement in School Social Work
 - enroll or be accepted for enrollment, and remain continuously enrolled on a full- or part-time basis (at least 3 hours), at the Illinois public universities
 - maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the college
 - establish satisfactory repayment arrangements if in default on any federal student loan

Application Process - SWSP

- The application/promissory note is available in the ISAC student portal.
- Applicants must agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the Application/Promissory Note.
- By receiving the scholarship, student must work as a social worker in an Illinois school.
- The online application has built-in edits to prevent errors and will send an immediate e-mail to the applicant when their application has been received.
- An e-mail will also be sent from ISAC for incomplete applications, explaining the reasons and how to resolve the issue.
- If commitment is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan, and must repay the entire amount, plus interest.

Certification Process - SWSP

- A Certification record is created in the SWSP system within GAP Access to view names of applicants attending your institution.
- Certification is the first step in the awarding process and requires colleges to complete and submit the Certification record for each applicant regardless of whether the student is eligible or ineligible.
- Certification information is provided for the entire award year.
- A complete application and a complete eligible Certification record are required for consideration for an award.
- The only way an applicant can be considered for an award and/or receive an SWSP notification letter about their ineligibility is if the applicant's certification has been completed by the college.
- If a college certifies a student as ineligible for an award, a 'Notice of Ineligibility' is sent to the applicant.
 - Copies of the ineligible student letters are not sent to the college.

Payment Process - SWSP

- Payment request (claim) process is completed in the SWSP system in GAP Access.
- Submitting payment requests is a two-step process, which involves *generating* the request and then *submitting* the request.
- By submitting a payment request, schools are certifying that the student meets all eligibility criteria.
- As part of the payment request process, colleges are certifying that the student is enrolled and continues to meet all eligibility criteria of the program.



Payment Process - SWSP

- A Payment Result Summary and Invoice Detail Report can be viewed the day after a payment request has been processed in the SWSP system.
- ISAC will authorize a voucher in the amount of the payment request (claim) and submit the voucher to the State Comptroller's Office.
 - Funds are issued by the State Comptroller directly to the institution.
 - Reports for tracking payment vouchers and warrants will be available in the SWSP system.
- Payment offset and reconciliation procedures will apply to SWSP.
 - Any cancellations/adjustments to payment requests made throughout the award year will offset additional payments to the college during the year.
- Funds should only be returned to ISAC after a final reconciliation has been completed at the end of the regular school year.
- Payment Offset and Reconciliation: isac.org/faas/processes/refunds-and-unpaid-claims/payment-offset-and-reconciliation-map.html

Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW)

- In August 2023, Governor JB Pritzker signed House Bill 1378, which will create the Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Act -- ilga.gov/legislation/103/HB/10300HB1378enr.htm
- The intent is to establish a new program that allows students majoring in technology fields to receive tuition grants.
- Will be available to students enrolled in IT programs pursuing an associate or bachelor's degree at public or private colleges and universities and may receive a grant amount up to the total cost of attendance.
- FY 2024 budget includes an appropriation to of \$2,000,000.
- The program is set to begin for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- ISAC will provide more information as it becomes available.

Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment (CBHCPLR) Program

- The 2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024) appropriation is \$5,000,000.
- Provides loan repayment assistance to qualified mental health and substance use professionals.
- Intended to encourage recruitment and retention of those who practice in underserved or rural areas.
- It seeks to help address the shortage of Illinois community-based behavioral workers that causes disparities in access to critical mental health and substance use services.
- The amount of the annual award to qualified applicants to repay their student loan debt is based on their position and may be received for up to four years.

Eligibility - CBHCPLR

- To qualify for the program, applicants must:
 - Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen
 - Be an Illinois resident
 - Have an outstanding balance on an eligible educational loan
 - Stafford loans
 - Graduate PLUS Loans
 - Consolidation loans
 - Supplemental Loans for Students
 - Alternative Loans
 - Other types of government and institutional loans used for education expenses
 - Not be in default on any federal guaranteed educational loan, nor owe a refund on any scholarship or grant program administered by ISAC

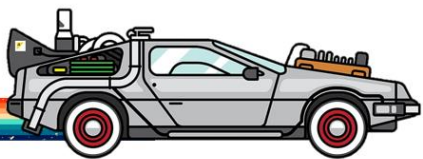


Eligibility - CBHCPLR

- To qualify for the program, applicants must:
 - Be a qualifying behavioral health professional who meets licensing requirements of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or holds certification as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor from the Illinois Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association (iaodapca.org/)
 - Psychiatrist
 - Advanced practice registered nurse
 - Physician assistant
 - Psychologist who holds a doctoral degree (Psy.D or Ph.D.)
 - Licensed clinical social worker (LCSW)
 - Licensed clinical professional counselor (LCPC)
 - CADC-certified substance use professional
 - Have worked as a behavioral health professional in a community mental health center in an underserved or rural health professional shortage area (HPSA) mental health discipline for the past 12 consecutive months prior to the date of each application

Application Process - CBHCPLR

- The application is available in the ISAC student portal.
- All applicants must submit a complete CBHCPLR application to ISAC each academic year.
- In order to be considered timely, the application must be submitted on or before the priority consideration date, which will be announced when the application is made available each year.
- If the application is incomplete, a letter will be sent to the applicant to request the missing information.
- Qualified applicants will be sent a Notice of Eligibility letter from ISAC.



Certification Process - CBHCPLR

- Certification of an applicant's eligibility by the approved community mental health facility takes place in the GAP Access.
- Eligible applicant records will be available for certification.
- Certification process requires - employment status, start and end dates, most recent qualified behavioral profession, and a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Score of 1-25.
- HPSA score - The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' "Find Shortage Areas by Address" search tool can be used to learn a facility's HPSA score.
 - The result (a number score) available through the search tool is the number to be entered into the Certification screen.
 - For more information - data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/by-address

Award Determination - CBHCPLR

- The total number of awards each year is contingent on available funding.
- If funding in any year is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants, awarding will be determined in the following order:
 - Renewal applicants, in the order in which their applications were received
 - New applications, using the mental health portion of the HPSA database to rank eligible rural and underserved applications, giving priority to the areas with the highest degree of shortage (score) for that applicant's profession
 - If multiple applicants have the same score, they will be given consideration in the order received
 - If an applicant works for an organization located in an HPSA mental health discipline that has satellite clinics and the applicant more than one of the clinics, the highest HPSA score where the applicant works will apply.
 - If an applicant works for different employers in multiple HPSA mental health disciplines having different degrees of shortage, the location having the highest HPSA mental health discipline score will apply

Payment Process - CBHCPLR

- The award amount is based on the applicant's remaining balance on eligible education loans, not to exceed:
 - \$35,000 per year for a psychiatrist
 - \$15,000 per year for an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant
 - \$12,000 per year for a psychologist who holds a doctoral degree
 - \$6,500 per year for a licensed clinical social worker or a licensed clinical professional counselor and
 - \$2,500 per year for a substance abuse professional.
- Proceeds will be remitted directly from the State Comptroller's Office to the holder of the loan(s) to be repaid.
- There is a minimum of 8 – 10 weeks turnaround from the date approved recipients are notified by ISAC to when funds are disbursed.

School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

- 2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) lump-sum appropriation is \$6,000,000.
- This program encourages Illinois students to work, and to continue to work, as social workers in public school districts and Illinois municipalities, by providing assistance toward the repayment of student loans.
- This is intended to assist in paying eligible loans as an incentive to participate in the social work field, particularly by minority applicants, who are underrepresented as school and municipal social workers.
- A one-time award of up to \$6,500 is available.

School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

- Eligibility requirements:

- To qualify for the program, applicants must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen
 - Be an Illinois resident
 - Have an outstanding balance on an eligible educational loan
 - On the date of application submission must be currently and was employed as a social worker for at least 12 consecutive months by
 - an Illinois public elementary school,
 - an Illinois public secondary school, or
 - an Illinois municipality where the social worker did not report directly to a police department
 - Not be in default on any federal guaranteed educational loan, nor owe a refund on any scholarship or grant program administered by ISAC



School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

- Application Process –

- The application is available to download and print from the ISAC website
- The applicant must complete all sections and include documentation listed in section 3
- An authorized official of the applicant's place of employment is required to complete section 4, certifying the employment requirements have been met
- The address to submit the application is included on the form
- If an application is incomplete (including required documentation), the applicant will receive a letter from ISAC explaining the reason(s) and advising how to resolve the issue
- Qualified applicants will be sent a Notice of Eligibility from ISAC

School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program

- Award Determination and Payment
 - Recipients are selected from among qualified applicants, with priority given to minority applicants
 - The total amount of awards each year is based on available funding
 - If funding in any given year is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants
 - Awarding will be based on the date the complete application (with all required documentation) is received at the ISAC Deerfield Office
 - Award amounts are based on the applicant's remaining balance on eligible education loans, not to exceed \$6,500
 - Proceeds will be remitted directly from the State Comptroller's Office to the holder of the loan(s) to be repaid.



A Review of the Classics

2023-22 Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- Spring (second-term) payment requests may be submitted in the MAP system.
- In order to be considered timely, the payment claim deadline date for the second-term must be submitted on or before **March 22, 2024, no later than 7 p.m. (CT)**.
- Fall (first-term) claims may still be submitted even though the deadline date was Friday, December 8, 2023.
 - Any initial requests or increases to first-term claims made after the deadline date will be held as late and considered for payment later in the year if funding is available.
- Payment requests are processed on a nightly basis and results are provided the next business day.
- Reminder: ISAC suspended the announcement of 2023-24 MAP awards for students whose initial 2023-24 FAFSA[®] or Alternative Application was received on or after September 23, 2023.

2024-25 MAP Processing Cycle

- The 2024-25 MAP processing cycle will begin in the MAP system in GAP Access shortly after ISIRs are released to colleges and state agencies (anticipated mid-March).
- MAP records and student eligibility information will be available once the MAP processing cycle begins.
 - This will include students who have submitted a 2024-25 FAFSA or a 2024-25 Alternative Application.
- Visit our website for more information:
 - isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/


The screenshot shows the ISAC Gift Assistance Programs website. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > ISAC Gift Assistance Programs > Monetary Award Program (MAP). The main heading is "Monetary Award Program (MAP)". Below it is a "Program News" section, last updated February 21, 2024. The news items are: "2024-25 Operational Guide for Alternative Application Processing", "2024-25 Start-up Update (priority deadline date for returning MAP recipients extended to April 1)", "2024-25 Award Announcements", "2024-25 Start-up Formula", and "2024-25 File Layout Specifications". On the right side, there is a blue navigation menu with the following items: "Monetary Award Program (MAP)", "Program Overview", "Applying", "Suspense", "Eligibility", "Award Announcements", "Formula", "MAP Paid Credit Hours", and "Social Enrollment Circumstances".

MAP - Certificate Programs

- Effective with the 2022-23 award year, students enrolled at public institutions in eligible short-term certificate programs that award credit hours may be eligible for a MAP award.
 - This includes certificate programs that are not eligible for Title IV financial aid.
 - ISAC filed an emergency amendment to its 2022-23 administrative rules so the change would be in effect for the 2022-23 award year.
- In order to receive MAP for a short-term certificate program, it must meet the following definition (from 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1501.301, which are the Administrative Rules of the Illinois Community College Board) and which is now in ISAC rules:
 - “Occupational or Career and Technical Certificate” means a credit award for satisfactory completion of a prescribed curriculum intended to prepare an individual for employment in a specific field.
- Certificate programs that do not award credit hours are not eligible for MAP.
- In order to receive MAP for a short-term certificate program, a student must be enrolled at an eligible public institution in an eligible degree or certificate program for a minimum of three credit hours.

MAP Payment Procedure - Certificate Programs

- There is an indicator in the MAP system for schools to use to identify students who are receiving MAP due to enrollment in a Short-Term Certificate Program at a public institution.
- To request payment for a student in an eligible certificate program, schools should report the number of credit-based hours in which the student is enrolled for the term.
 - If the student is enrolled in additional coursework, the number of enrollment hours reported should be the combination of the certificate program hours and other coursework the student may be enrolled in.
 - The certificate box should be checked even if the hours are mixed (a combination of traditional and certificate program courses).
 - Help text is provided to clarify when the indicator should be checked.
- For payment requests submitted via FTP, a “Y” indicator should be provided in Field #24 in the FTP file, per the file specifications.



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

MAP Payment Procedure - Certificate Programs

- In the MAP system, the indicator can be provided on the:
 - **Student Payment Detail** screen – for individual reporting
 - **Input Student Enrollment Hours** screen – for batch reporting, will apply to all students entered on the screen
 - **Payment Generation** screen – for batch processing, will apply to all students selected (and saved) on the Student Payment List

The image displays two screenshots of the MAP system interface. The left screenshot shows the 'Student Payment Detail' screen with the 'Short-Term Certificate Program' indicator highlighted by a red box. The right screenshot shows the 'Payment Generation' screen with the 'Short-Term Certificate Program' indicator highlighted by a red box.

Student Payment Detail Screenshot:

Term	Term 1
MAP Code	010
Request	<input type="text"/>
Enrollment Hours	<input type="text"/>
Short-Term Certificate Program	<input type="checkbox"/>
Request Amount Override	\$4,200.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Current Eligible Amount	\$4,200.00
Original Eligible Amount	\$4,200.00
User Defined	<input type="text"/>
NSLDS Override	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transaction #	02
Activity Date	
Status	
Results	
Expanded Reject Reason	
Invoice #	

Payment Generation Screenshot:

Home Student **Payment** Budget Reports File Extractions

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

Term: 1 MAP Code: 010 Request: Payment Short-Term Certificate Program: User Defined:

Student SSN	Tran #	Enr Hrs	Student SSN	Tran #	Enr Hrs
1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	11	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	12	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Home Student **Payment** Budget Reports File Extractions

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

Term: 1 MAP Code: 010 Request: Payment Enrollment Hours: Short-Term Certificate Program: User Defined:

2024-25 MAP Start-Up Formula

- ISAC Commissioners approved the 2024-25 MAP Start-Up formula in September.
 - It is the same as the 2023-24 Recompute Formula, using
 - 2021-22 reported tuition and fees
 - 2021-22 Pell Grant Payment Schedule
 - a \$5,200 living allowance, and
 - an \$8,400 maximum award
 - Replaces the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) with the Student Aid Index (SAI)



- Once the Governor and General Assembly take final action on the budget, the Commission revisits the formula in June or July and takes action to approve a "recompute" formula.

Home > ISAC Gift Assistance Programs > Monetary Award Program (MAP) > Formula > 2024-25 MAP Formula

2024-25 MAP Formula

2024-25 MAP Start-up Formula

Each year the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is responsible for adopting an allocation formula for the Monetary Award Program (MAP). The Commission approves a "start-up" formula that is used to begin making award announcements for students applying for the next academic year. Typically, once the Governor and General Assembly take final action on the budget, the Commission revisits the formula in June or July and takes action to approve a "recompute" formula.

Unless otherwise noted, all calculations should be rounded to the nearest whole dollar upward from .500 and downward from .499. Students who have been paid for 135 or more MAP Paid Credit Hours are not eligible for MAP.

2024-25 Start-up Formula

On September 21, 2023, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission approved the 2024-25 (FY25) MAP start-up formula. Following the FY24 recompute formula, the start-up formula for 2024-25 MAP grants – which is outlined in Table One of [Agenda Item 5](#) from the [September 21, 2023 Commission meeting](#) – uses:

- 2021-22 reported tuition and fees;
- the 2021-22 Pell Grant Payment Schedule;
- a \$5,200 living allowance; and,
- an \$8,400 maximum award.

In addition, as necessitated by FAFSA Simplification, the 2024-25 MAP start-up formula replaces "Expected Family Contribution (EFC)" with "Student Aid Index (SAI)" and includes clarification

- Monetary Award Program (MAP)
- Program Overview
- Applying
- Suspense
- Eligibility
- Award Announcements
- Formula
 - 2023-24 MAP Formula
 - 2024-25 MAP Formula**
 - Hand Calculation Forms
 - Calculating MAP Awards
- MAP Paid Credit Hours
- Special Enrollment Circumstances
- Budget Reporting
- Payment
- Reconciliation
- MAP Electronic Processing

2024-25 MAP Award Notification Language

- Other than award year reference, there are no changes to the required MAP award notification language for 2024-25.
- An updated version of the language has been posted in the MAP section of the FAA area at isac.org.
- www.isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/map/media/2425MAPRqrdAwdNotifLang.pdf

2024-25 School-Issued Award Notification Language

All schools are required to announce MAP Grant awards to all eligible students enrolled at their institutions, including students who are only eligible for a second semester/second and third quarter MAP award. Schools are required to clearly identify the awards on the award notification as: **State of IL MAP Grant (Est)**.

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

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

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

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

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

MAP 160-Byte File Layout Specifications

- The final file layout for 2024-25 MAP processing has been posted to the Electronic Tools section of the E-Library.
- For 2024-25, these data elements are no longer included on the file:
 - Student Social Security number (SSN)
 - Student Last Name (previously an optional field)
 - Original SSN
 - Name ID
- These Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data elements were removed to protect student identity when transmitting files between ISAC and colleges.
- The student's Person Universally Unique Identifier (UUID) that is assigned to the student by the Department of Education (ED) by the FAFSA Processing System (FPS) will replace the SSN on the file.
 - The Person UUID field is 36 characters in length, and the total number of characters being removed is also 36, so the length of the file will not change.
 - The Person UUID will stay the same for the student across FAFSA cycles.
 - ISAC will generate and a Person UUID for Alternative Application applicants.

2024-25 MAP File Layouts



2024-25 MAP 160 Byte File Layout Specifications

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

Position		Field#	Data Element	Type (Length)	ISAC to School		
Start	End				School to ISAC	Elig File	Payment Results
					Payment or Cancellation Request		
				MAP Only	MAP	MAP	
160 Byte Format							
1	3	1	Applicable MAP School Code	9(03)	X	X	X
4	4	2	Record Type	X(01)	4	7	5 / 6
5	5	3	Term Enrolled	9(01)	=1, 2, or 3		=1, 2, or 3
6	7	4	College Year	9(02)	25	25	25
8	8	5	Payment Request Code (valid values = P or C)	X(01)	X		X
9	14	6	Title IV School Code	X(06)	X	X	X
15	50	7	Person UUID	X(36)	X	X	X

160-byte file layout specifications

```
ISACPLL3YyRh5E8EohuN58wgGndxcXdQPGKM
ISACPwHoPtRKMQxELuxwUCON0grXZKdeJjT6
ISACPXPGkpacsIF8iOR0jPDzjjvzYN6N2wTN
```

Sample ISAC UUIDs

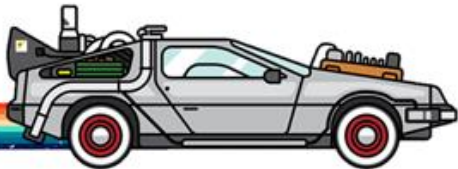
2024-25 Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout Specifications As of 2/20/2024

Field #	Start Position	End Position	Length	Field Name	Populated when Applicable	Data Format (same values and formatting as ISIR unless otherwise noted)
1	1	1	1	Year Indicator	Yes	
2	2	37	36	FAFSA UUID	Yes	Will always start with ISAC
3	38	73	36	Transaction UUID	Yes	Will always start with ISAC
4	74	109	36	Person UUID	Yes	Will always start with ISAC
5	110	111	2	Transaction Number	Yes	
6	112	112	1	Dependency Model	Yes	

Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout Specifications

2023-24 Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program

- Schools may submit claims for the spring semester and winter quarter (second-term) and spring quarter (third-term).
- Priority claim dates will be announced once they have been determined.
- Fall (first-term) claims may still be submitted even though the priority claim date was Friday, December 29, 2023.
 - ISAC is continuing to accept and pay fall (first-term) claims.
- Schools are encouraged to complete and submit payment request data as soon as possible.



2024-25 Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program

- ECACE program has been federally-funded for the last three academic years, however, federal dollars will be unavailable after this current 2023-24 academic year.
- Proposed Illinois legislation – [House Bill \(HB\) 5024](#) -- would amend the Higher Education Student Assistance Act to include a state-funded program
 - Here is part of the bill's synopsis:
 - ... Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission shall implement and administer an early childhood educator scholarship program, to be known as the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship Program. Provides that under the Program, the Commission shall annually award scholarships to early childhood education students enrolled in the institutions of higher education participating in the Consortium. Provides for rulemaking and consultation. Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act to provide for emergency rulemaking for the Program. Effective immediately.
- The Governor delivered his State of the State address on Feb. 21 and included in his budget recommendations a proposal of \$5 million to continue the ECACE Scholarship Program.
- ISAC will provide more information as it becomes available.

2023-24 Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

- Schools may submit claims for the spring semester and winter quarter (second-term).
- The second-term priority claim date will be announced once it has been determined.
- Fall (first-term) claims may still be submitted even though the priority claim date was Friday, December 29, 2023.
 - ISAC is continuing to accept and pay fall (first-term) claims.
- An MTI recipient who is also eligible for a MAP grant may use the MAP award first for tuition and mandatory fees.

2024-25 Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

- 2024-25 MTI Scholarship Program application is available in the ISAC Student Portal.
 - The priority consideration application date is **March 31, 2024**.
 - Applicants must also submit a 2024-25 FAFSA or Alternative Application.
 - The application process is not considered complete until both applications have been submitted.
 - Due to issues with the 2024-25 FAFSA, allowances will be made for applicants who are having problems submitting the FAFSA by March 31.
 - Additional time will be provided for the FAFSA to be submitted.
 - However, the MTI application should be submitted by March 31 in order to be considered a timely applicant.
 - Reminder: participating colleges must host an annual information session about MTI for teacher candidates of color and require that each program recipient meet with an academic advisor at least once per academic year.

Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- Schools may submit benefit usage data for the spring term.
- The date by which the spring term benefit usage data must be submitted will be announced once it has been determined.
- Colleges are encouraged to continue to submit benefit usage data and adjustments for the fall term.
- Starting with the 2023-24 academic year there are no longer term deadline dates by which applications must be submitted each term.
 - However, applications must be received by ISAC in time for eligibility to be determined by the end of the term.
 - The applicant will need to notify the college about their eligibility no later than the last scheduled day of classes for the term for which benefits will be requested.

ISAC's Partner Services Department

- Provides training, program information, and support to schools and other ISAC partners.
- Partners with ILASFAA and other professional organizations.
- Will soon be fully assuming the responsibilities of the School Services Department.
 - Watch for more information about the transition after the ILASFAA Conference.
 - You may continue to use the School Services contact information for questions and assistance.

Partner Services Staff

Stephanie Claudio, Stephanie.Claudio@illinois.gov

Kim Eck, Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov

Daniela Rios, Daniela.Rios@illinois.gov

Sherry Schonauer, Sherry.Schonauer@illinois.gov

ISAC Contact Information

For school inquiries, both colleges and high schools

Phone: 866-247-2172

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

For inquiries from students, parents, and the general public

Phone: 800-899-ISAC (4722)

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: isac.studentservices@illinois.gov

Spanish-speaking counselors are available

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

Questions/Comments



Thank you for attending today!

