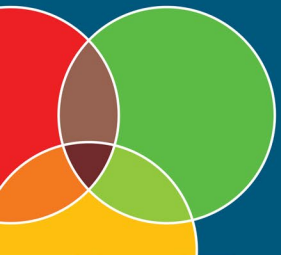
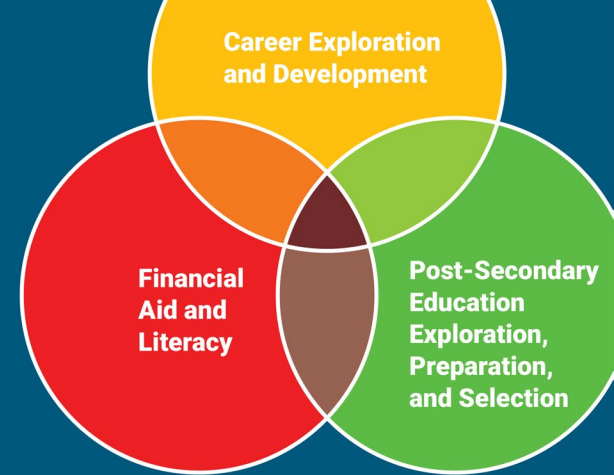


Happy to Help! Supporting PaCE Implementation Through the ISACorps

Abel Montoya



Illinois Student Assistance Commission



Mission Statement

Providing Illinois students with information and assistance to help make education beyond high school accessible and affordable





ISACorps

- Near-peer model began in 2009
- Approximately 85 college grads of diverse backgrounds
- Live in the communities in which they work
- Majority are first gen and/or MAP recipients





Corps Activities & Responsibilities

- Help students (and families) overcome academic, financial, and social barriers to higher education through presentations, workshops, and one-on-one mentoring
- Represent ISAC at college fairs, financial aid nights, conferences, and related events
- Provide presentations and conduct workshops on the college-going process
- Foster college-going culture in communities throughout Illinois
- Work with students one-on-one





Connecting with Corps Members

<https://studentportal.isac.org/ISACorps>

ISACORPS
 The ISACorps – making college a reality for students across Illinois.

ISACORPS EVENTS FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARS NETWORK

Connect with your local ISACorps Member

The ISACorps are here to help you through the college planning process! ISACorps members are recent college graduates from across the state that can help you with the ins and outs of selecting and applying to college, scholarship searches, FAFSA completion, and student financial aid. Meet with your local ISACorps member for free one-on-one assistance or at FREE college fairs and financial aid workshops in your community.

Do you have a passion for helping those in your community learn more about the college-going process? If so, the ISACorps are always looking for passionate college graduates that get excited about the idea of giving back to their community. For more details on how to become a part of the ISACorps team, check out our most recent job posting We look forward to hearing from you.

- Use zip code search to locate corps member nearest you
- View corps member's contact information & other language spoken



Davon Maxey
 community college district assigned to:
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 ✉ Davon.Maxey@illinois.gov
 ☎ (815) 677-8437



Denisse Diaz
 community college district assigned to:
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE
 ✉ Denisse.Diaz@illinois.gov
 ☎ (815) 641-7586
 Additional Language: Spanish



Outreach Events

<https://studentportal.isac.org/Events>

- Link to Outreach Request Form
- Use zip code search to find outreach events
- View event information

ISACORPS

The ISACorps – making college a reality for students across Illinois.

ISACORPS

EVENTS

FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARS NETWORK

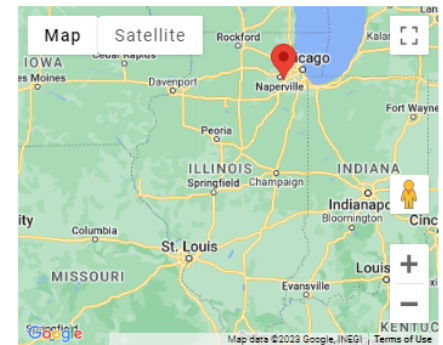
Find An Event Near You

ISAC is here to support you every step of the way with college planning and financial aid, with free college planning and financial aid events. You can also get one-on-one assistance with college planning and financial aid from the ISACorps member in your area. [Find your ISACorps member.](#)

If you would like to schedule an event for your school or organization, please complete and submit our [ISAC Outreach Request Form](#).

You can enter your zip code to find the outreach events closest to you. Please note that in-person events will be conducted in accordance with state and local health guidelines. Advance registration may be required for online events.

All events of "ZIP Code"



All Upcoming Events

April 2023

Wednesday, April 19th

Information Table (Spanish),
9:00am-2:00pm
New Life Lutheran Church
249 N Bollingbrook Dr, Bollingbrook, IL
60440-1957
In-Person Event

Event Contact:
Alejandro Rosales
educacioncho@sre.gov.mx

ISACorps



Elizabeth Barrera
Elizabeth.Barrera@illinois.gov
(630) 689-7759



Requesting ISACorps Assistance

- You can work directly with a corps member to schedule a workshop, presentation, or outreach activity
- Can submit an ISAC Outreach Request form to ISAC which is assigned to nearest corps member
 - Description of available ISACorps presentations and workshops are found on pages 2 -4 of Outreach Request Form



Outreach Request Form

To request an ISAC representative for your event, please email this completed Outreach Request Form no more than six (6) months and no less than three (3) weeks prior to the event to isac.outreach@illinois.gov.

In-person events will be conducted in accordance with local health guidelines.

SECTION I – Event Logistics

Event Name: _____

Event Date: _____ Event Time: From: _____ a.m. To: _____ a.m.
MM/DD/YYYY p.m. p.m.

If first choice for date is not available, please indicate second choice: _____

Event Location: _____

Street Address _____ Building/Room Number _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Event Contact: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Title _____ Organization _____

(_____) _____ Area Code & Phone Number & Extension Email Address (required) _____

SECTION II – Event Profile

Outreach Event Type: (select one) – See pages 2-5 for descriptions.

Financial Aid Process Presentation Financial Aid Application Completion Workshop Information table

If selecting one of the events below, please enter specific event name from descriptions on pages 2-4.

Financial Aid/Literacy event: _____

Postsecondary Exploration/Preparation event: _____

Career Exploration event: _____

Parent Engagement event: _____

Event Preference (select one): In-person Virtual

Language (select one): English Spanish

Anticipated Number of Attendees: Under 20 21-30 31-50 Other: _____

Audience (select as many as apply):

Freshmen Juniors Sophomores Seniors Parents Professionals/Educators

Younger than high school Nontraditional students Adult learners Other: _____

Social Media Promotion: Would you like for your event to be promoted via ISAC's social media and listed on ISAC's Student Portal (<https://studentportal.isac.org/events/>)? Yes No



Workshops and Presentations are Grouped based on the PaCE Framework



Financial Aid & Literacy

The Financial Aid Process Presentation (45 minutes – 1-hour presentation) *Available in English and Spanish*
This session outlines the general financial aid process and provides insight on how financial aid works, how to apply for it, student eligibility, and how it can be used to help pay for college. It introduces the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* and the *Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid*, along with summarizing state and federal aid programs among other topics.

Financial Aid Application Completion Workshop – (seniors & college students; 1 – 1½ hours)
During this workshop students will be able to get questions answered to complete either the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* or the *Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application)* for qualifying undocumented. These are the forms used to apply for financial aid, such as the Federal Pell Grant and/or the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP). Many colleges also use these forms to consider students for institutional money. Individuals should create an FSA ID at least three business days prior to the workshop to expedite the submission of the FAFSA. The FSA ID is also used to retrieve their tax and income information via the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. Please note that the FSA ID is not used with the Alternative Application. Individuals should have information regarding their income and asset information readily available.

FSA ID workshop – (juniors & seniors; approximately 45 min)
Attendees will be given information on how to obtain an FSA ID, and ISAC staff will be available to answer individual questions and troubleshoot any issues. An FSA ID is required for an individual to sign the FAFSA electronically and to electronically transfer to the FAFSA the income and tax information submitted to the IRS. Using an FSA ID will expedite the completion and submission of a FAFSA and can be created by all students and parents with a social security number.

FAFSA Follow-Up - (seniors; approx. 30 minutes)
Many students and their families have additional questions after completing the FAFSA. This presentation addresses what happens after a FAFSA is completed, including the SAR (Student Aid Report), completing the verification process, using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, reviewing financial aid offers from colleges using ISAC's interactive tool, how financial aid is disbursed, and addressing extenuating circumstances.

College Knowledge Jeopardy - (freshmen through seniors; approx. 60 minutes)
This presentation is meant to motivate students to go to college and teach them more about the process. Presented in an engaging multimedia format, this activity is available in two difficulty tiers: beginner and expert. Topics include paying for college, types of colleges, college admissions, and picking a major.

Postsecondary Education, Exploration, Preparation & Selection

College is Possible (middle school students & parents; 45 minutes to 1 hour) *Available in English and Spanish*
It is never too early to start planning for college. This presentation outlines the college and financial aid processes in general terms, lays the groundwork for what to expect with the college-going process, and provides tips and tools students and parents can use to learn more about planning, applying, and paying for a postsecondary education.

Welcome to High School - (8th graders, freshmen, and sophomores; approx. 30 minutes)
This presentation introduces 8th graders, freshmen, and sophomores to the importance of high school and how to make the most of it to prepare for college. Students will learn the important basic information about college, as well as how they can prepare for college academically and socially during high school.

College Application Process - (juniors and seniors; approx. 45 minutes)
Applying to colleges can be daunting. Through this presentation, juniors and seniors will learn the ins and outs of the college application process, including typical components of college applications, the timeline and logistics of the college application process, tips on personal statements/essays, and basic financial aid information. Students will also learn about helpful resources they can use to prepare for standardized tests often required for college admissions.

College Application Workshop – (seniors and college students; 1 – 1½ hours)
ISAC has partnered with the American College Application Campaign to promote applying to college in a timely fashion. As part of this campaign, Corps members will assist students with completing college applications to the college(s) of their choice. Schools are encouraged to work with ISAC staff to hold other activities, such as

Career Exploration & Development

Claim Your Future – (middle school through seniors; 30 – 60 minutes)
This interactive activity encourages exploration of education and training after high school, future careers, and money management. Ideal for groups of 30 or smaller.

Connect the Dots - (8th graders, freshmen, and sophomores; approx. 45 minutes, in-person event)
In a presentation and engaging career activity, students connect post-secondary education with career options. The brief presentation introduces students to ways they can identify their interests and explore related careers, and the basics of post-secondary education, including how to prepare in high school.





Corps Driven Initiatives

- College Changes Everything Campaign (CCE)
 - College Application Completion Workshop
 - Financial Aid Application Workshop
 - ISAC provides promotional materials to CCE Sites
- First Generation Scholars Network (FGSN)
 - Assists first gen students with transitioning to college from senior year in HS through first year in college
 - Connects first gen students with each other
 - Provides support and outreach activities over the summer
 - Assists students with FAFSA or Alternative Application completion in fall of 1st year in college



Supporting FGSN

- High school counselors & staff can host events aimed at first gen students
- High schools and community based organizations can encourage their students to join FGSN
- Colleges can partner with ISAC to ensure students get connect to campus resources

Welcome to the First Generation Scholars Network!

If you will be the first in your family to earn a college degree, join our network to get support and resources from ISAC, your peers at your college, and colleges across the state! If you are heading to your first year of college this fall, we've got events and programs that can give you tools, resources, mentoring, and a great network of connections to make your transition and first year of college a whole lot easier—and successful.

- [Connect with a First Generation Scholars Network Mentor](#)
- [Find the First Generation Network or Mentoring Program on Your Campus](#)
- [Join us for a "Check-in" Event](#)

Connect with a First Generation Scholars Network Mentor

Our team of recent college graduates is your resource for all your questions and concerns about transitioning to college. We've been where you are, had a lot of the same questions, fears, and experiences you might be having. We are here to listen, answer questions, offer suggestions, connect you with the places on your campus that can assist you, and connect you with a network of peers like you.

First Generation Scholars Network Mentors



Brady Taylor
Assigned district: HARRY S TRUMAN COLLEGE
[✉ Brady.Taylor@illinois.gov](mailto:Brady.Taylor@illinois.gov)
[\(773\) 405-5192](tel:773-405-5192)



Denisse Diaz
Assigned district: JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE
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[\(815\) 641-7586](tel:815-641-7586)
Additional Language: Spanish



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Maria Amil
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Leah Freaney
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[\(630\) 870-9553](tel:630-870-9553)



Jessica Diaz
Assigned district: WILBUR WRIGHT COLLEGE
[✉ Jessica.Diaz@illinois.gov](mailto:Jessica.Diaz@illinois.gov)
[\(773\) 405-5201](tel:773-405-5201)
Additional Language: Spanish



Join the Network

You have two easy options! Select whichever is most convenient for you!

Option 1 - Text your first and last name to the ISAC College Q&A number below that is in the area code closest to you, and you will be asked if you are a first generation college student. Answer yes, and you are in! You can also text us any college or financial aid question you have, and it will be answered by one of ISAC's college access experts.



(773) 453-9520
(630) 216-4910
(847) 243-6470
(815) 242-4630
(217) 207-3265
(309) 306-7066
(708) 252-3890
(618) 223-6450

Option 2 - Don't have your phone? It's okay! You can join using our [online form](#) instead!

Have questions? Email us at ISAC.FirstGen@illinois.gov



Let Us Know How We Can Help

- Corps members can help support implementation of the PaCE framework
- Corps members are available to conduct events and presentations in the evenings and/or weekends
- Many corps members are bilingual
- Can help increase your FAFSA completion rate



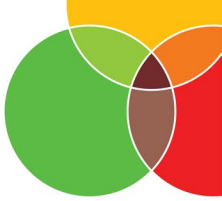


We're Hiring!

- Looking for recent college grads passionate about helping others
- Two-year commitment
- \$35,604 salary
- Health & retirement benefits
- Tuition waiver at public universities
- Openings throughout the state

www.isac.org/jointhecorps





Thank You

