

**AGENDA ITEM 10.**

**INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN  
ISAC GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
ERIKSON INSTITUTE**

**Submitted for:** Action

**Summary:** Agency rules set forth eligibility requirements and application procedures for institutions to obtain approval to participate in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which the institution is eligible. Applications for participation in gift assistance programs must be reviewed and approved by the Commission.

The Erikson Institute has met the criteria and submitted the required documentation for participation in certain ISAC gift assistance programs. Once approved by the Commission, an institution is accorded eligibility to participate in the agency's gift assistance programs on a provisional basis for a minimum of five years. After the five-year period has ended, an institution may be considered for full eligibility.

**Action requested:** That the Commission approve the following resolution:

**"BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission approves the application of the Erikson Institute to participate, on a provisional basis, in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which it is eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2005-2006 academic year, with payment of awards to be subject to available funding."

**ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

**INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN**  
**ISAC GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**  
**ERIKSON INSTITUTE**

Agency rules set forth eligibility requirements and application procedures for institutions to obtain approval to participate in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which the institution is eligible. Applications for participation in gift assistance programs must be reviewed and approved by the Commission.

Requirements for eligibility, in addition to general indicators of administrative capability and financial responsibility, include accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools; legal authority to operate a postsecondary institution in Illinois; and possession of a valid Program Participation Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

The Erikson Institute is an independent graduate school located in Chicago, established in 1966, specializing in child development and early childhood education. As a graduate level institution, the Erikson Institute is interested in participating in the Illinois Future Teacher Corps (IFTC) Program and the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program. Current enrollment is approximately 250 students, the majority of whom are enrolled in degree programs leading to the Master of Science in Child Development or the Master of Science in Early Childhood Education. In March of 1993, the Erikson Institute received its initial approval from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to operate as an independent institution in Illinois and to grant certain degrees. In September of 2004, the Erikson Institute was granted initial accreditation by the HLC.

Once approved by the Commission, an institution is accorded eligibility to participate in the agency's gift assistance programs on a provisional basis for a minimum of five years. After the five-year period has ended, an institution may be considered for full eligibility.

Having concluded that the institution has met the criteria and submitted the required documentation, staff is recommending that the Commission approve the application of the Erikson Institute to participate, on a provisional basis, in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which it is eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2005-2006 academic year, with payment of awards to be subject to available funding.