



Outreach Request Form

To request a speaker or exhibitor for your event, return a completed Outreach Request Form no more than *five (5)* months and no less than *three (3)* weeks prior to the event. Submit your completed Outreach Request Form to:

Division of College Access and Outreach
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
1755 Lake Cook Road
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209
FAX: 847-831-8508
E-mail: isac.outreach@illinois.gov

Your event will be added to our websites at www.isac.org/students/before-college/outreach-activitiesevent-calendar/. All events are free and open to the public.

SECTION I – Event Logistics

Event Name: _____

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

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

Type of Event: (select one) College Fair Presentation
 Workshop Other: _____

Language (select one): English Spanish

Presentation Options: (select one) – See reverse for session descriptions

The Financial Aid Process FAFSA Completion Workshop
 Early College Awareness (students) Early College Awareness (parents)
 Small Group Presentation (select presentation from list): _____
 Other: _____

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

Audience (select as many as apply):

Freshmen Juniors Parents Professionals/Educators
 Sophomores Seniors Adult learners Younger than high school
 Other: _____

For ISAC Use Only

ORF Received Recorded in OD Staff Assigned Confirmed OD Complete

Presentation Descriptions

The Financial Aid Process (45 minutes – 1 hour) *Available in English and Spanish*

This session outlines the financial aid process and provides insight on ways to maximize access to financial aid to help pay for college. It introduces the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA), summarizes state and federal aid programs, and identifies trusted sources of information.

FAFSA Completion Workshop – (1 – 1½ hours)

The *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) is the form used to apply for most federal and state and many institutional financial aid programs, including the Federal Pell Grant and the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP). This workshop provides hands-on instruction on how to navigate through the FAFSA on the Web process. Individuals will receive personalized assistance with and instruction on completing an actual FAFSA during the workshop, ideally held in a computer lab. Individuals should bring income and asset information with them.

Early College Awareness

- **6th-8th Grade Students – Four Steps to College** (45 minutes – 1 hour)
This presentation outlines four easy steps students should keep in mind as they transition from middle school to high school and from high school to college.
- **Parents – College is Possible** (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 and provides tips and tools parents can use to learn more about planning, applying, and paying for a postsecondary education.

Small Group Presentations

(less than 30 individuals)

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, socially, and behaviorally during high school.

Connect the Dots - (8th graders, freshmen, and sophomores; approx. 45 minutes)

In a presentation and engaging 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.

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.

All about Scholarships - (juniors and seniors; approx. 30 minutes)

This introduction to the process of applying for scholarships addresses the basics of a scholarship application, along with tips on how to submit a successful application. It is designed to flexibly integrate high school resources while informing students of reputable sources of information.

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 101 - (juniors and seniors; approx. 45 minutes)

Typically people hear “college” and assume it means living away from home to attend a 4-year university. This presentation covers detailed information about various post-secondary options and why it is important to start thinking about life after high school. Topics include but not limited to types of colleges and how to research colleges, college match, and importance of college visits.

The Path of the FAFSA - (parents and seniors; approx. 45 minutes)

The FAFSA is fundamental to obtaining financial aid. This presentation outlines the information included on the FAFSA, how the FAFSA is used to determine financial aid eligibility, and how to read a financial award letter.

FAFSA Follow-Up - (seniors; approx. 30 minutes plus additional time if using the interactive component)

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), verification process, IRS Data Retrieval Tool, aid award letters using ISAC’s interactive award letter tool, and how aid is disbursed.

Financial Aid Award Letter Comparison Workshop - (parents and seniors; approx. 60 minutes)

This workshop is designed to help seniors and parents evaluate financial aid award packages. Corps members begin with a brief presentation on financial aid and how to read and evaluate financial aid award letters. With the help of a worksheet (paper or online form), families compare financial aid award letters while Corps members provide one-on-one support as needed. Ideally, this workshop is done in March or April of senior year.

Headed to College - (seniors; approx. 30 minutes)

As recent college graduates, Corps members offer an important perspective to high school seniors as they prepare to transition into college. This presentation is a practical discussion regarding that transition, particularly behaviors and characteristics that will help assure it is a smooth one. The presentation covers common college resources (e.g., writing center) and important logistical information like how to accept financial aid and manage the student billing process. An optional “rising freshman transition checklist” accompanies the presentation and gives concrete steps to take between senior year of high school and freshman year of college.

Managing College Costs: Students - (seniors; approx. 45 minutes)

The goal of this presentation is to get students thinking about their college budget. Topics include how to plan your college financing, as well as strategies for saving money without losing out on academic opportunities. Increasing a student’s financial base, scholarships, and working on campus are also discussed.

Managing College Costs: Parents - (parents of juniors and seniors: approx. 45 minutes)

This presentation provides tips on how parents can support their student as he/she searches for the “right fit” college. Topics include knowing the facts about college value, types of colleges and degrees, college visits, financial aid basics, teaching your student to budget, tips on managing money in college, and common concerns.