ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

2024-25 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

A Review of the Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- Public Act 101-0021 went into effect January 1, 2020
  - www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=101-0021
- Allows eligible undocumented students who are disqualified from federal financial aid to apply for all forms of state financial aid
  - Includes any student aid or benefit funded or administered by:
    - the state
    - a state agency, or
    - any public institution of higher learning
  - Includes, but not limited to:
    - Scholarships
    - Grants
    - Awards
    - Stipends
    - Free room and board
    - Tuition waivers, or
    - Other financial or in-kind assistance
- Does not exempt students from having to meet general eligibility criteria for ISAC programs as well as criteria specific to each individual program

RISE Act Provisions

- Undocumented students may be eligible to apply for ISAC programs if they meet all of these criteria (which are based on Illinois statute regarding in-state tuition eligibility):
  - the individual resided with his or her parent or guardian while attending an Illinois public or private high school;
  - the individual graduated from a public or private high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in Illinois;
  - the individual attended school in Illinois for at least 3 years as of the date the individual graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma;
  - the individual provides an affidavit stating that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so; and
  - the individual has not established a residence outside of Illinois.

Overview of the Alternative Application

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- To accommodate RISE Act-eligible students, ISAC created an Illinois-specific online application for the need-based Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant

- It is patterned after the FAFSA and is known as the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

- There are seven sections to the online application
  - Sections 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 are about the student
  - Section 4 is about the parent
  - Section 7 is for signatures and certification

- Students should answer all questions as accurately as possible
  - Some fields are optional, but most are required
  - Messaging will be presented for if required fields are left blank,
  - A “Save” button allows applicants to save their data and return to finish at a later time

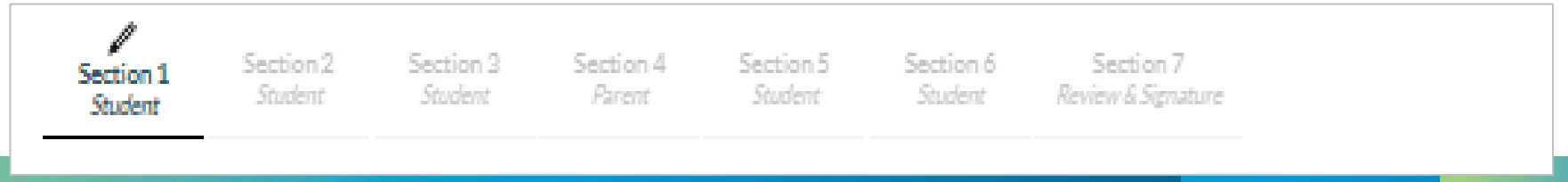
What to Expect for 2024-25

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- The 2024-25 Alternative Application will:
  - Become available at the same the 2024-25 FAFSA becomes available
    - Launch date is expected to be in December 2023
  - Continue to be modeled after the FAFSA and collect much of the same data, with a few important differences
  - Calculate a Student Aid Index (SAI)
  - Continue to be available in Spanish
    - Will provide a more user-friendly process for accessing the Spanish application screens

What to Expect in 2024-25

- The format and layout of the application will remain the same
- Questions will not always follow the same order as they appear on the FAFSA
- Whenever possible, we have eliminated questions to simplify the application
  - All questions that may appear on the FAFSA will not necessarily be on the 2024-25 Alternative Application
  - However, the application will continue to collect all data elements required to calculate an SAI in the same manner that the FAFSA form does
- The application will continue to have seven sections



What to Expect in 2024-25

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- Nothing is changing with the:
  - Pre-screening or log-in process
  - Eligibility criteria
  - Signature process

- Help text will be provided

- Financial aid administrators at the colleges will continue to have the ability to make corrections and/or professional judgment adjustments in the MAP system in GAP Access

Alternative Application – Section 1

- Collects student demographic information
  - New name field: suffix (e.g. Jr. or III)
  - Wording of questions and answer options will be edited to match FAFSA changes
    - Parents' education status
    - College grade level
    - Question about pursuing teacher certification
  - Removing the Driver's License questions
  - Student gender, race and ethnicity questions will not be included

Alternative Application – Section 2

- Collects student financial and tax information
  - Data fields and question text will be adjusted to match those on the FAFSA
    - On the paper FAFSA, these are the data elements in Questions 20, 21 and 22
      - Child support received will be added as a data element
  - Spouse fields will be presented to collect financial data if the student indicates a status of married and taxes were filed separately
    - On the paper FAFSA, these are the data elements in Question 25, 27 and 28
      - Application will not require a spouse's signature

Alternative Application – Section 3

- Collects information about the student's personal circumstances
  - Often referred to as the "dependency questions"
    - Step Three on the current 2023-24 FAFSA
  - Question text will be edited to be consistent with the FAFSA
    - Dependency questions
    - Other circumstances
      - Questions related to homelessness
    - Unusual circumstances
      - To possibly identify a student who may qualify for a dependency override

Alternative Application – Section 4

- Collects demographic information about the parent(s) required to provide their data
  - Uses same definition and guidance regarding parent contributor as the FAFSA
  - Data elements similar to FAFSA questions
    - Marital status
    - State of residence
    - Family size
    - Number in household

Alternative Application – Section 4

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- Collects tax and financial information about the parent(s) required to provide their data
- May require Parent 2 data, depending on marital and tax filing status
  - Will not require two parent signatures on the application
  - If parent is not married, Parent 2 data fields will not be presented
- An email will be required for at least one parent

Alternative Application – Section 5

- Collects additional information about an independent student
  - Family size (number in household)
  - Number in college
  - Receipt of benefits from federal programs
    - By student, spouse or anyone in the family/household

Number in College Questions

- Although the number in college will not be included in the Student Aid Index calculation, the question will still appear on the 2024-25 FAFSA and the Alternative Application
  - The data is still being collected for institutions that may want to have the data for determining options for institutional aid
    - May be used for professional judgement determinations

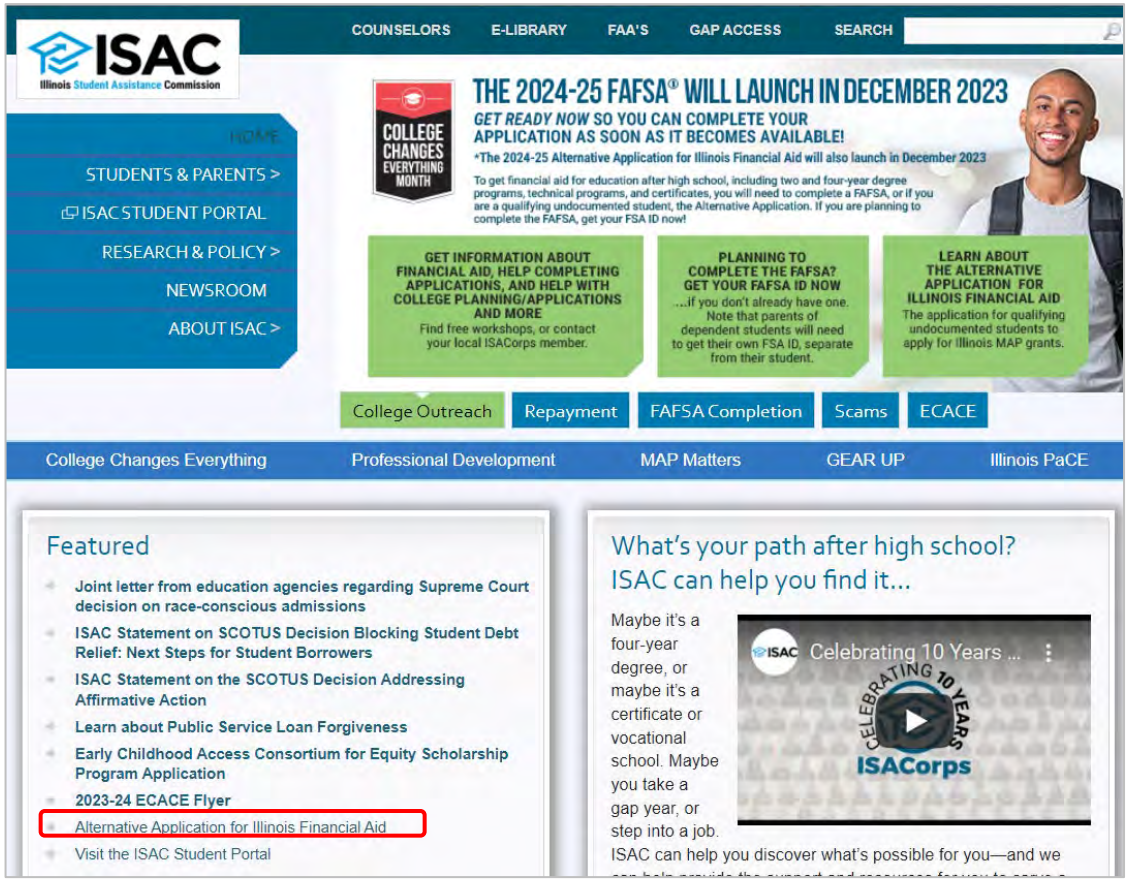
Alternative Application – Section 6

- Collects information about the school choices
  - Will no longer collect information about the housing plans
  - Will allow for up to 10 Illinois school choices
  - Student can log-in at any time and change their school choices

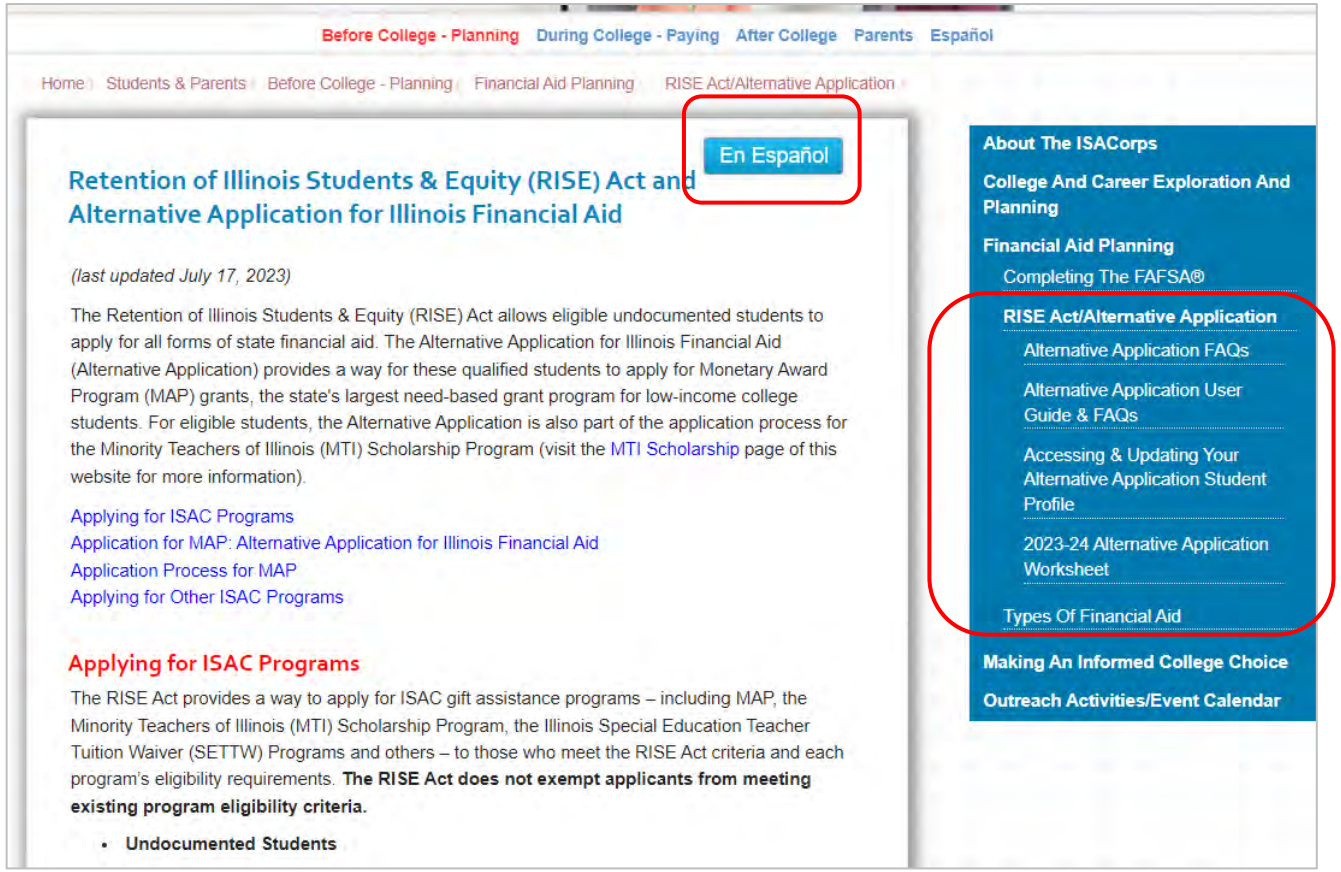
Accessing the Application

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

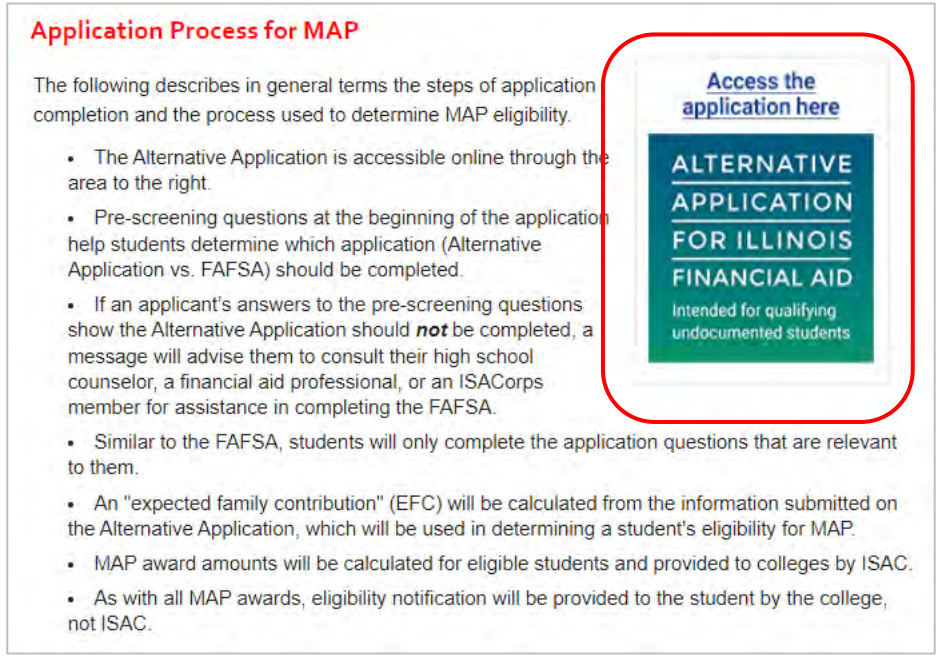
- The Alternative Application is accessed at isac.org
- Must navigate to the RISE Act information page from the home page
  - Provides information about eligibility requirements
  - The application and resources are available in Spanish
- The Application is not accessible in ISAC's Student Portal or on the general ISAC Applications page with other ISAC program applications



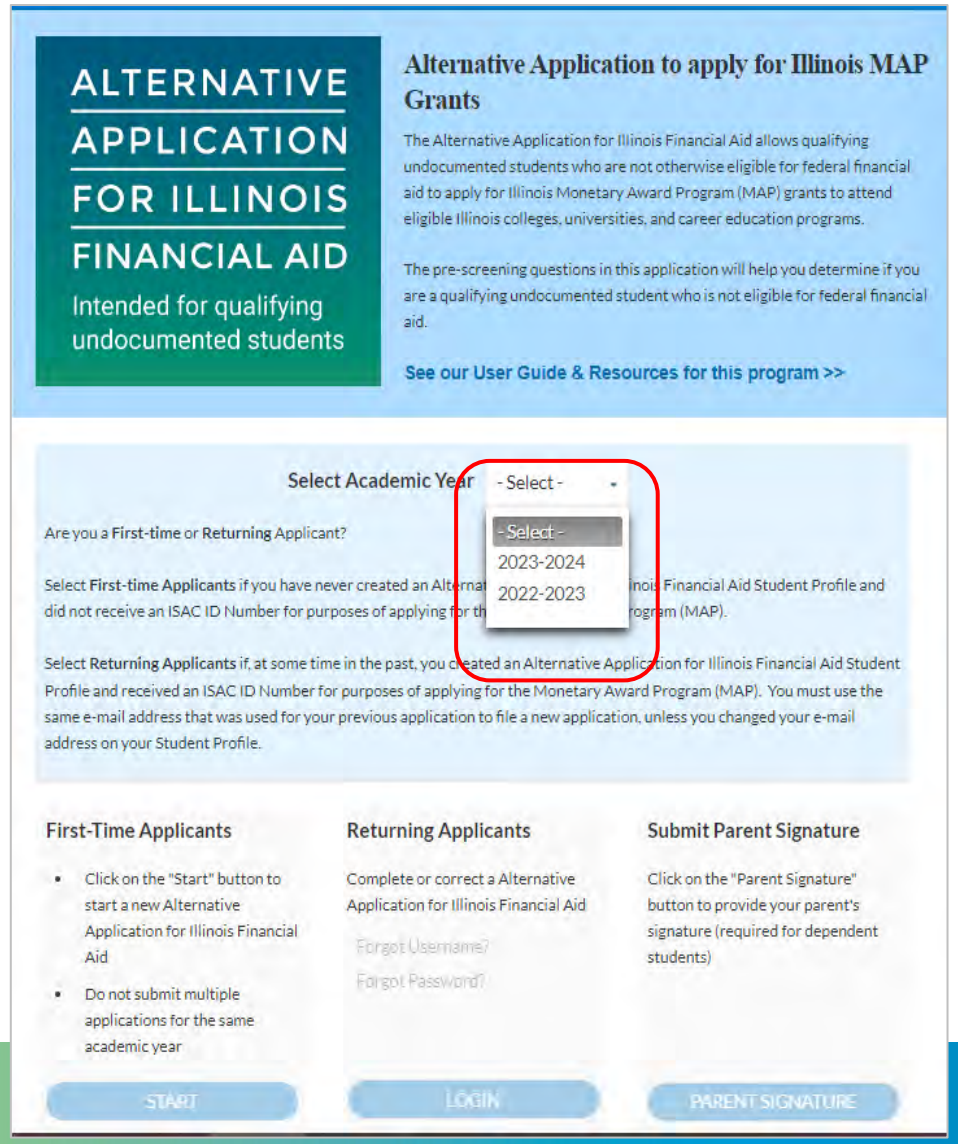
Accessing the Application

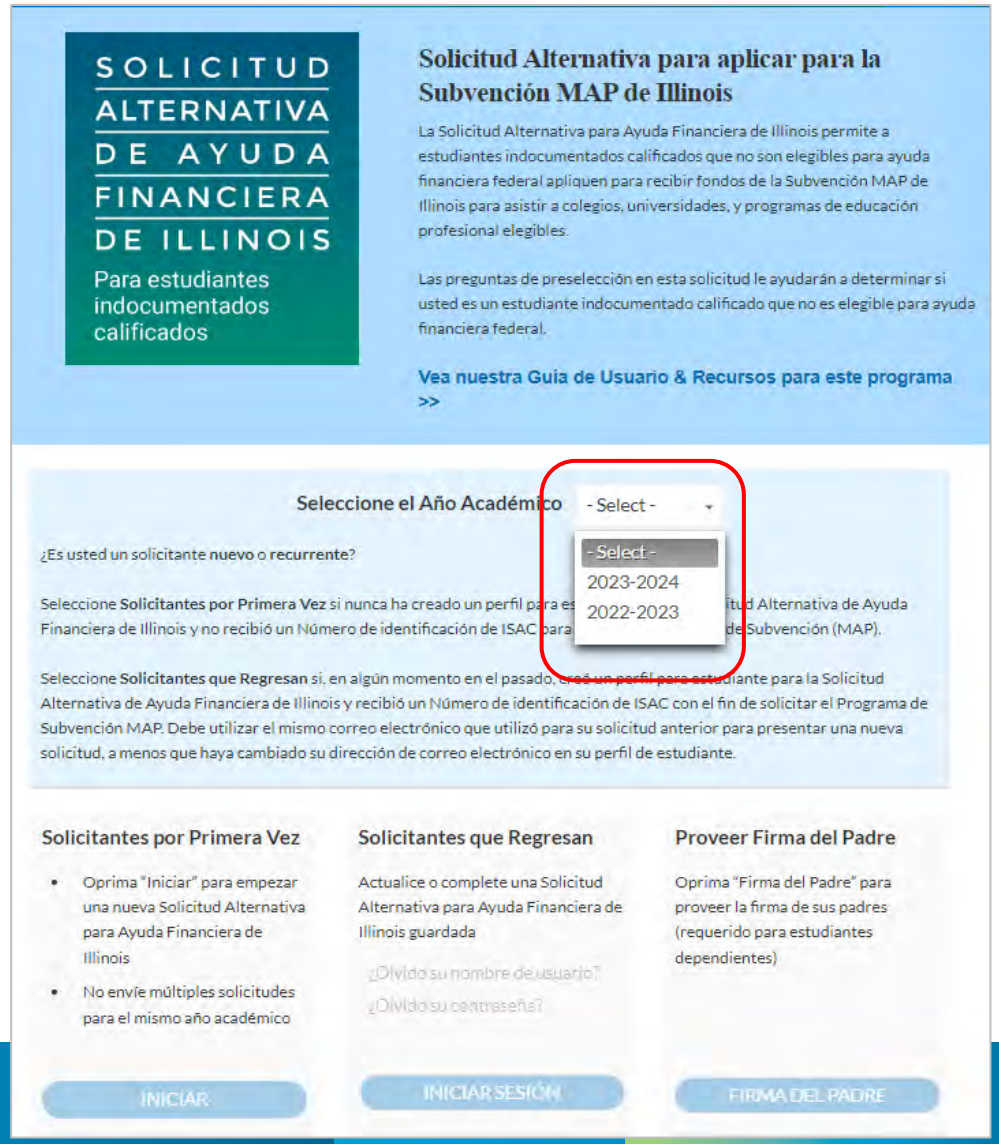


- Resources are available to assist with the application process
- These will all be updated for 2024-25



Accessing the Application





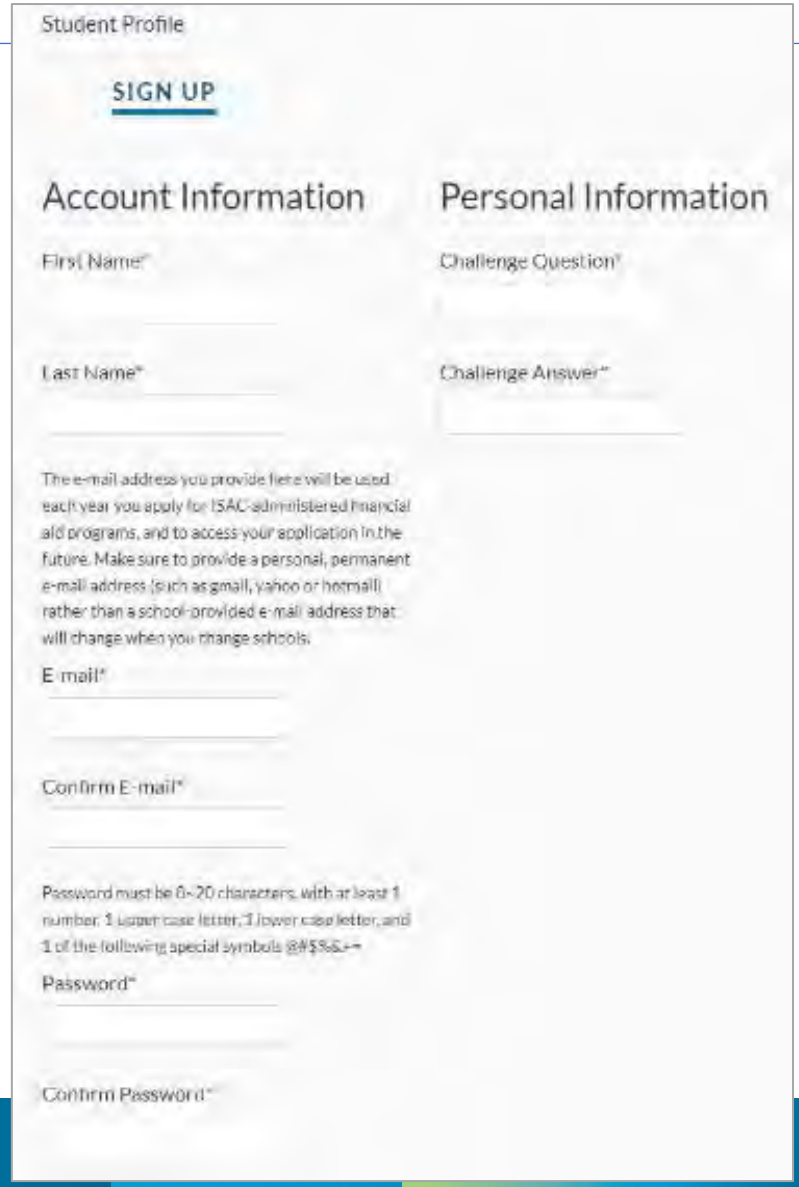
Pre-Screening Questions

- Pre-screening questions at the beginning of the application help students determine which application (Alternative Application vs. FAFSA) should be completed
  - An applicant will only need to respond to the pre-screening questions if it is their initial application
  - Renewal applicants will not see the pre-screening questions
  - Data provided by applicants in the pre-screening questions is not provided to colleges

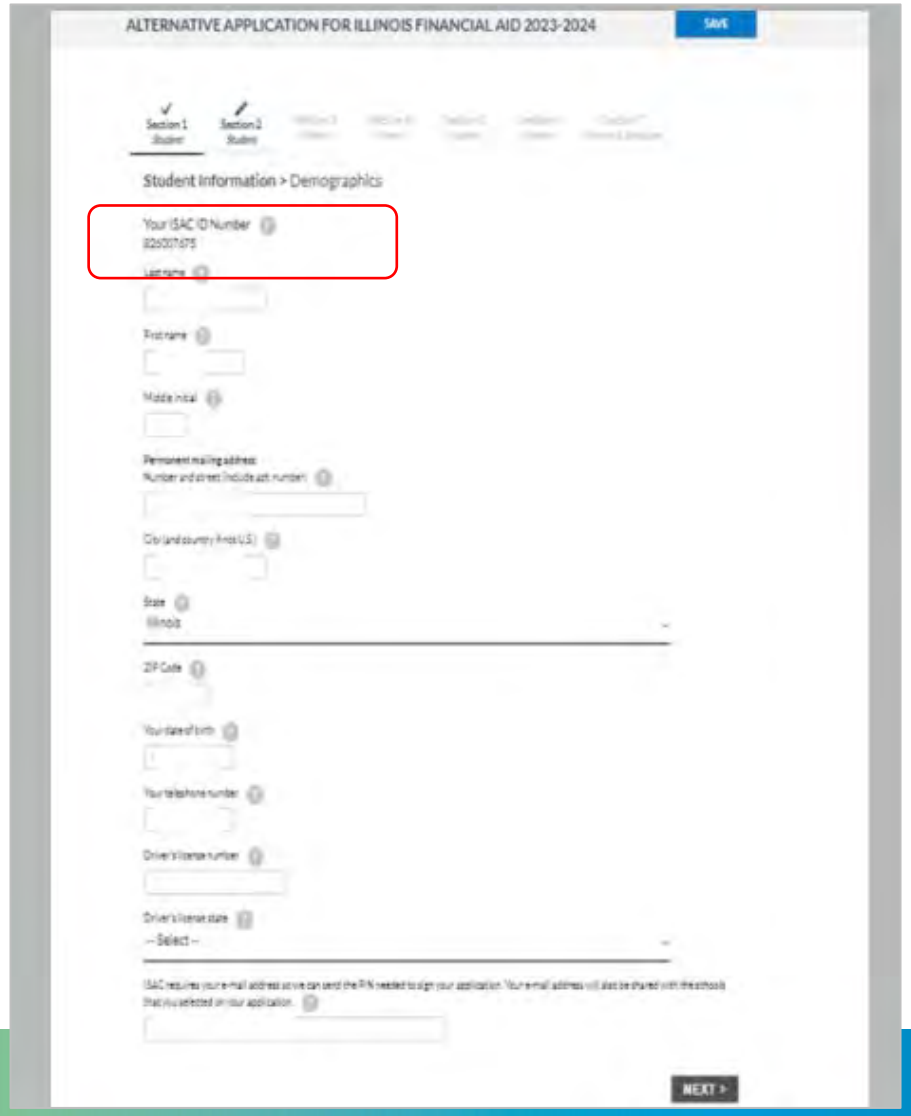
- If an applicant's answers to the pre-screening questions indicate the Alternative Application should not be completed, a message will advise them to consult their high school counselor, a financial aid professional, or an ISACorps member for assistance in completing the FAFSA

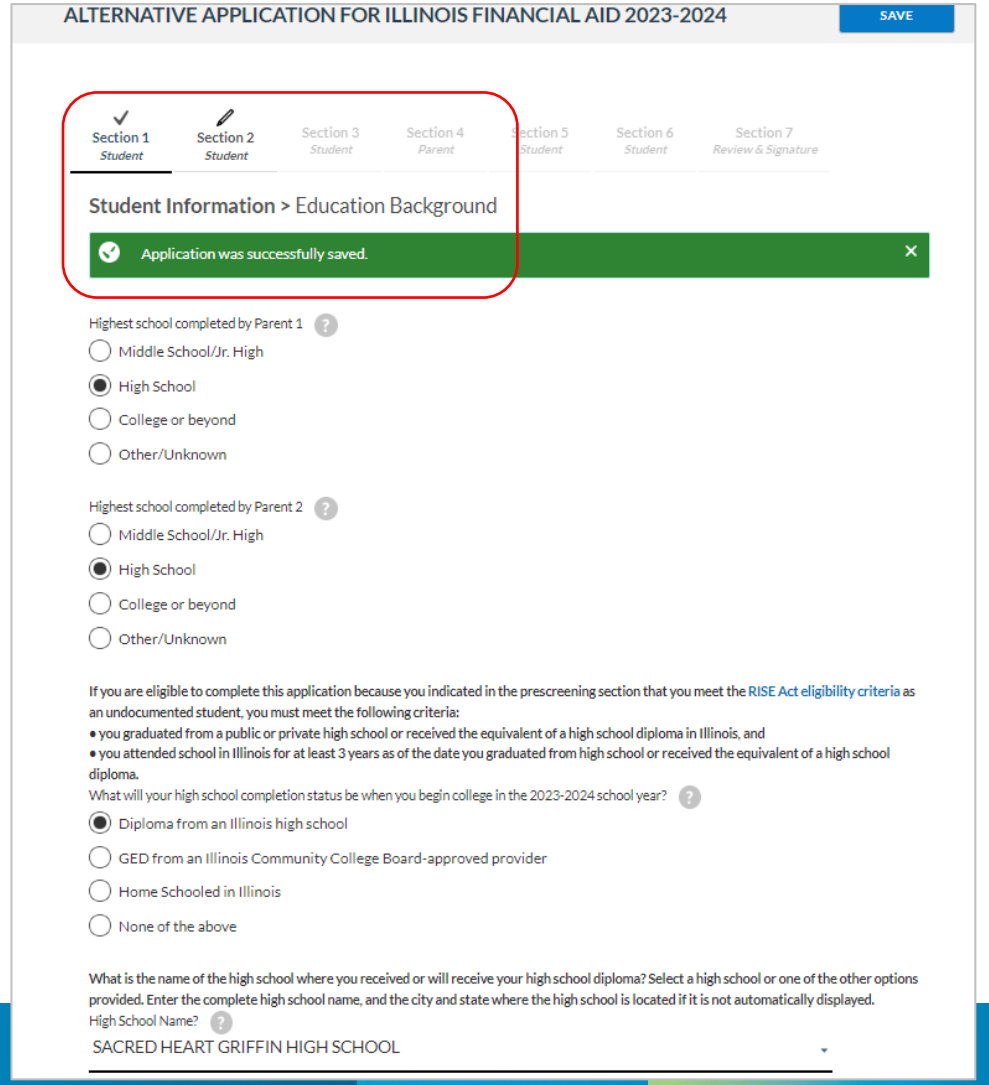
Alternative Application Student Profile

- Creating a Student Profile
  - Once a student has completed the pre-screening process and is determined eligible to complete the Alternative Application, the student must complete a Student Profile
  - The applicant should make note of the data used to create their profile
  - The e-mail address provided should be a permanent one that the student will have regular access to (not one used just for high school or college purposes)
  - If the applicant also has an ISAC Student Portal Account, they will need to use a different e-mail than the one used for the Portal
  - Once the Student Profile is complete, ISAC will assign an ISAC ID number that is unique to the student
    - This is a permanent identifier that will remain the same for a student every year



2023-24 Application Screens – Section 1





2023-24 Application Screens – Sections 2 & 3

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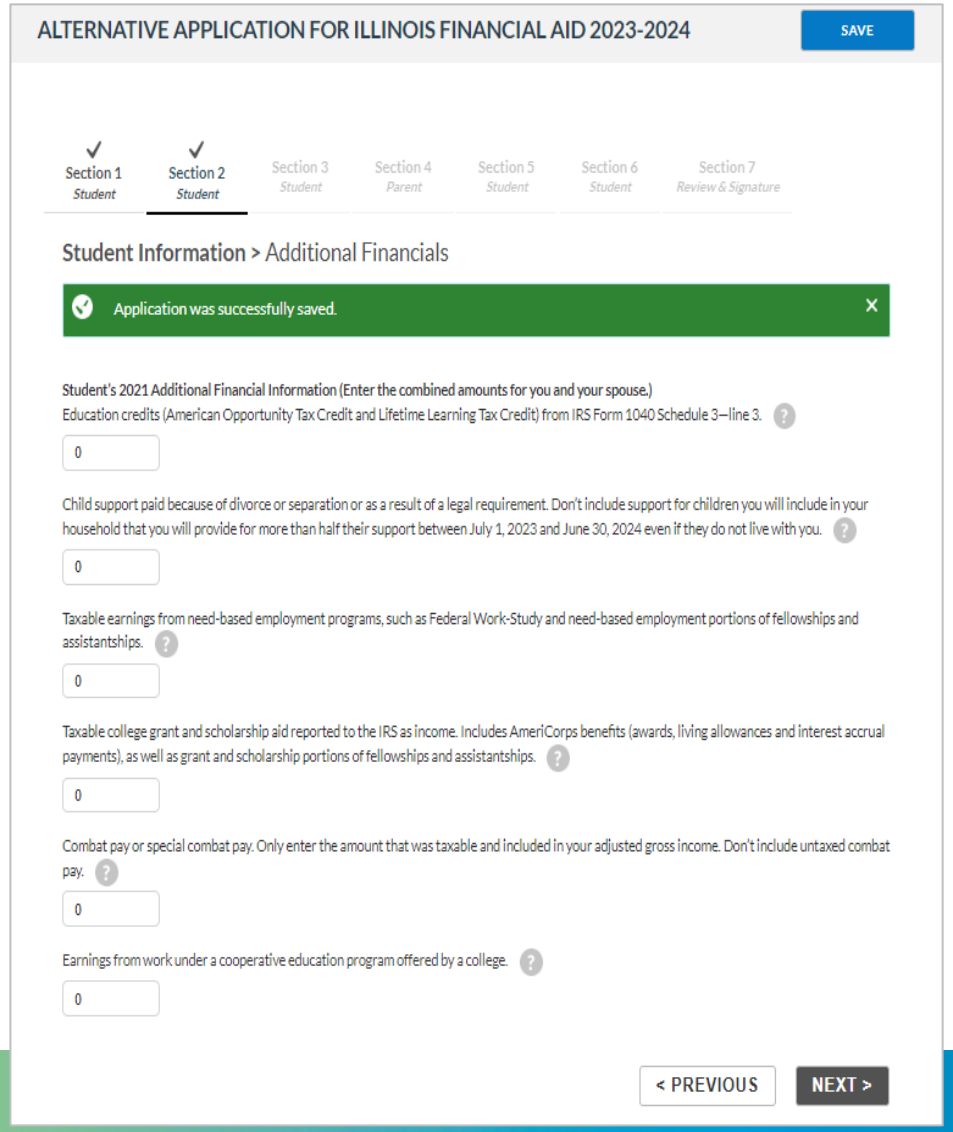
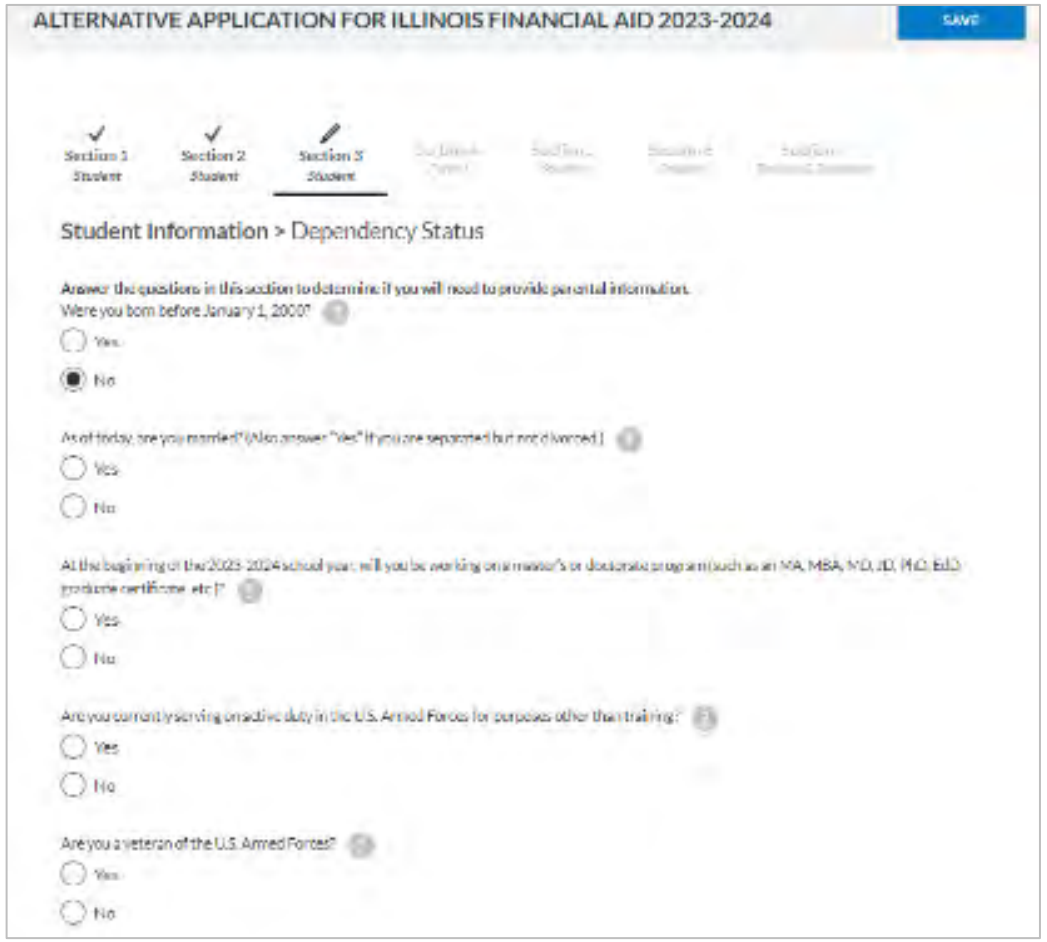
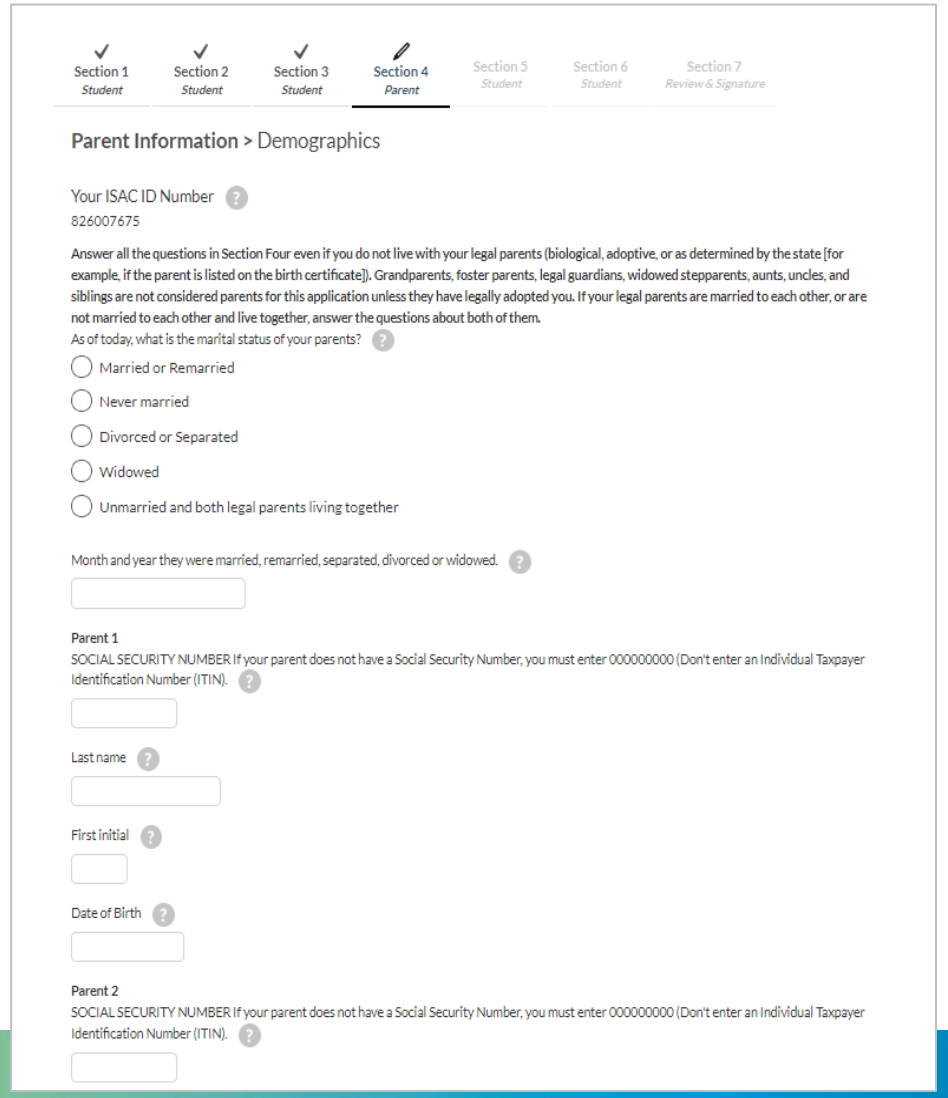
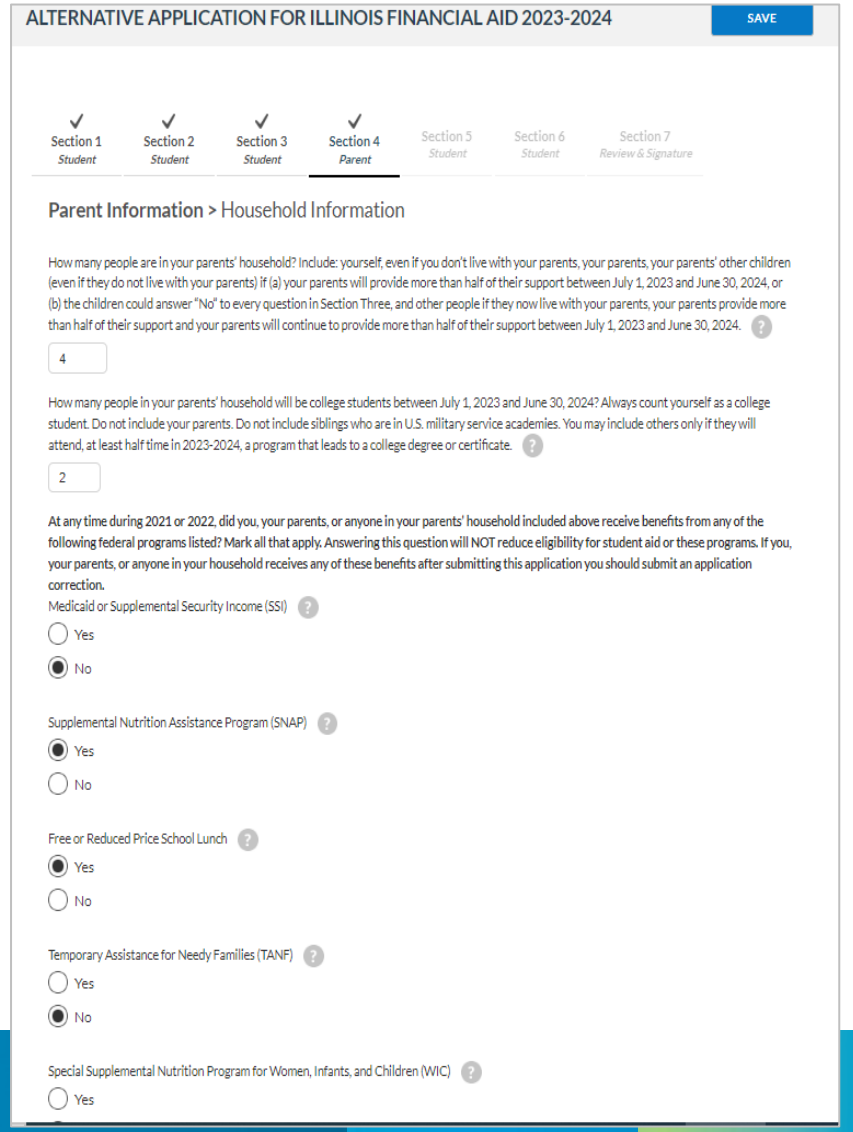




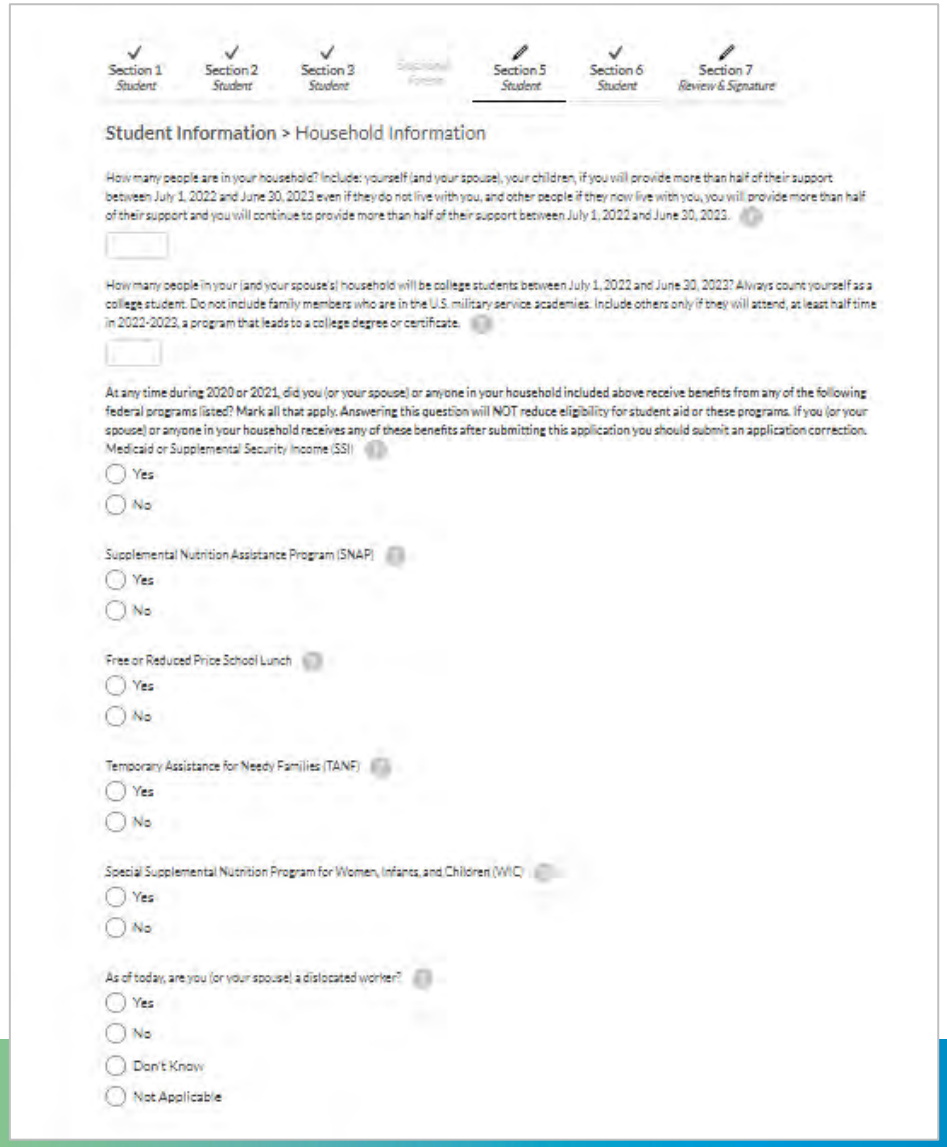
2023-24 Application Screens – Section 4

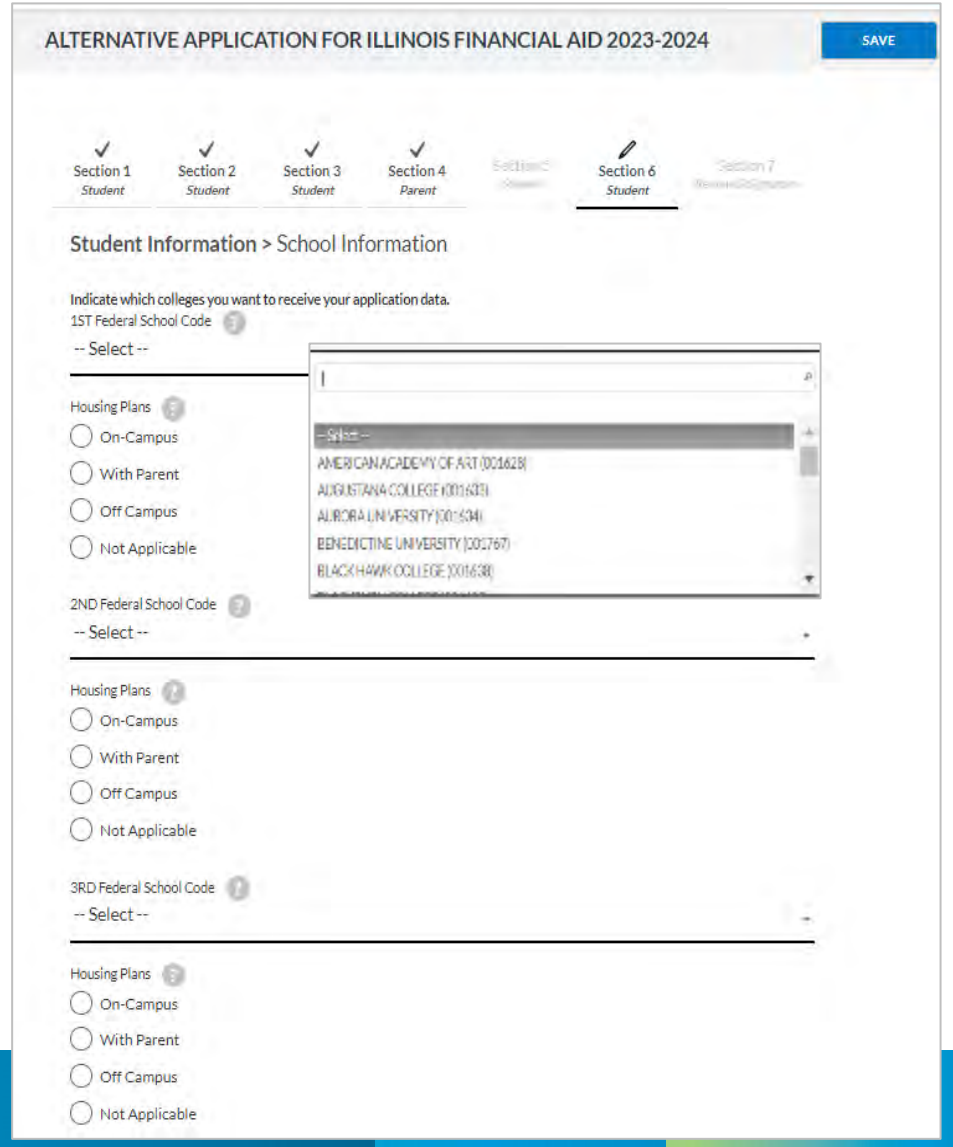




2023-24 Application Screens – Sections 5 & 6

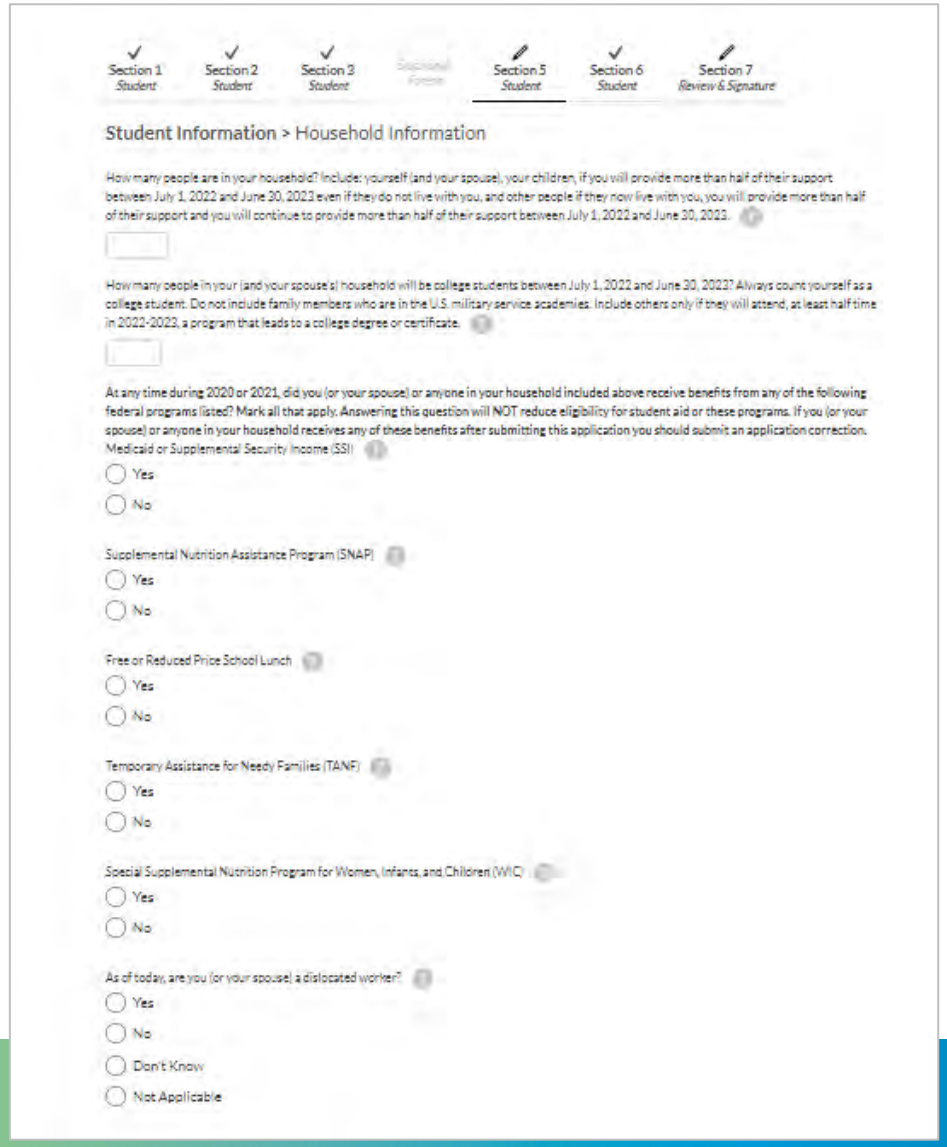
ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

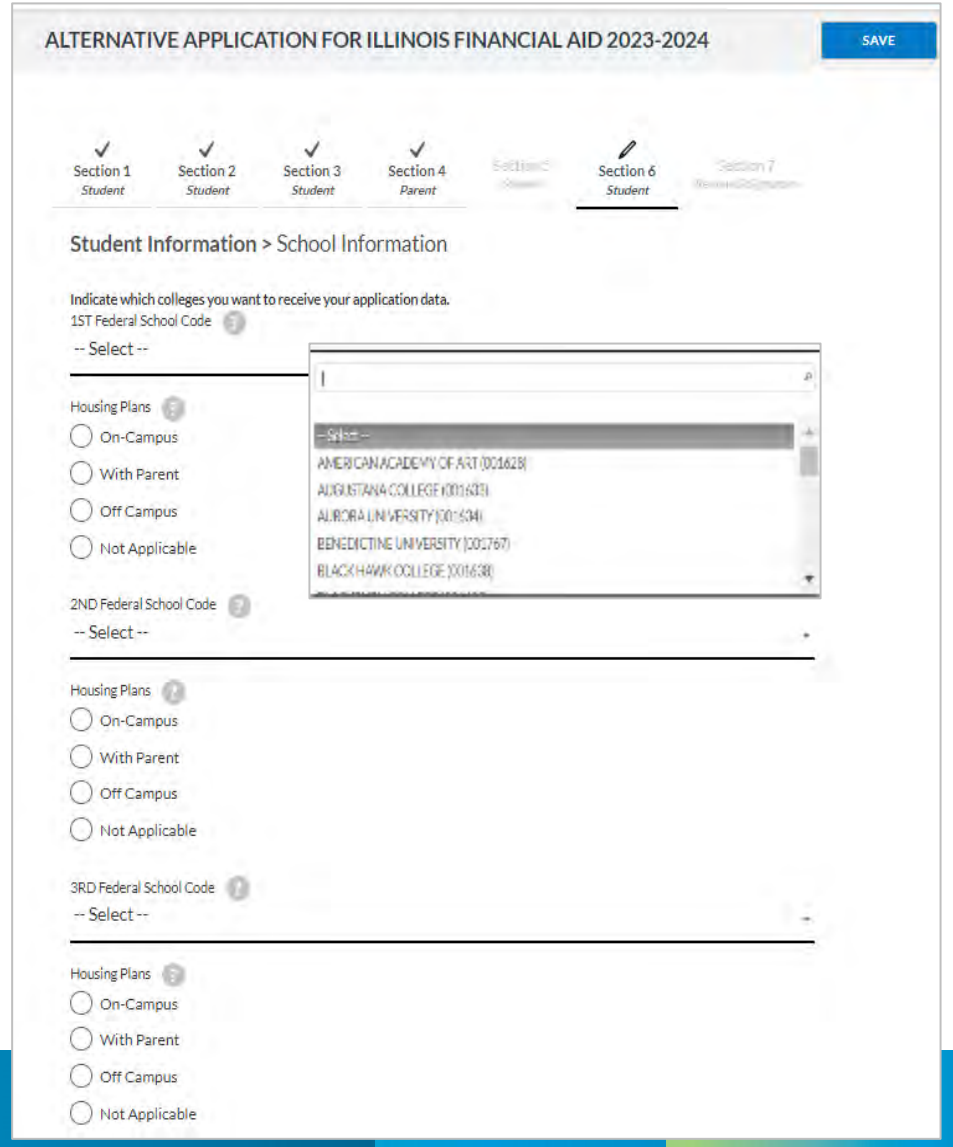




2023-24 Application Screens – Sections 5 & 6

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

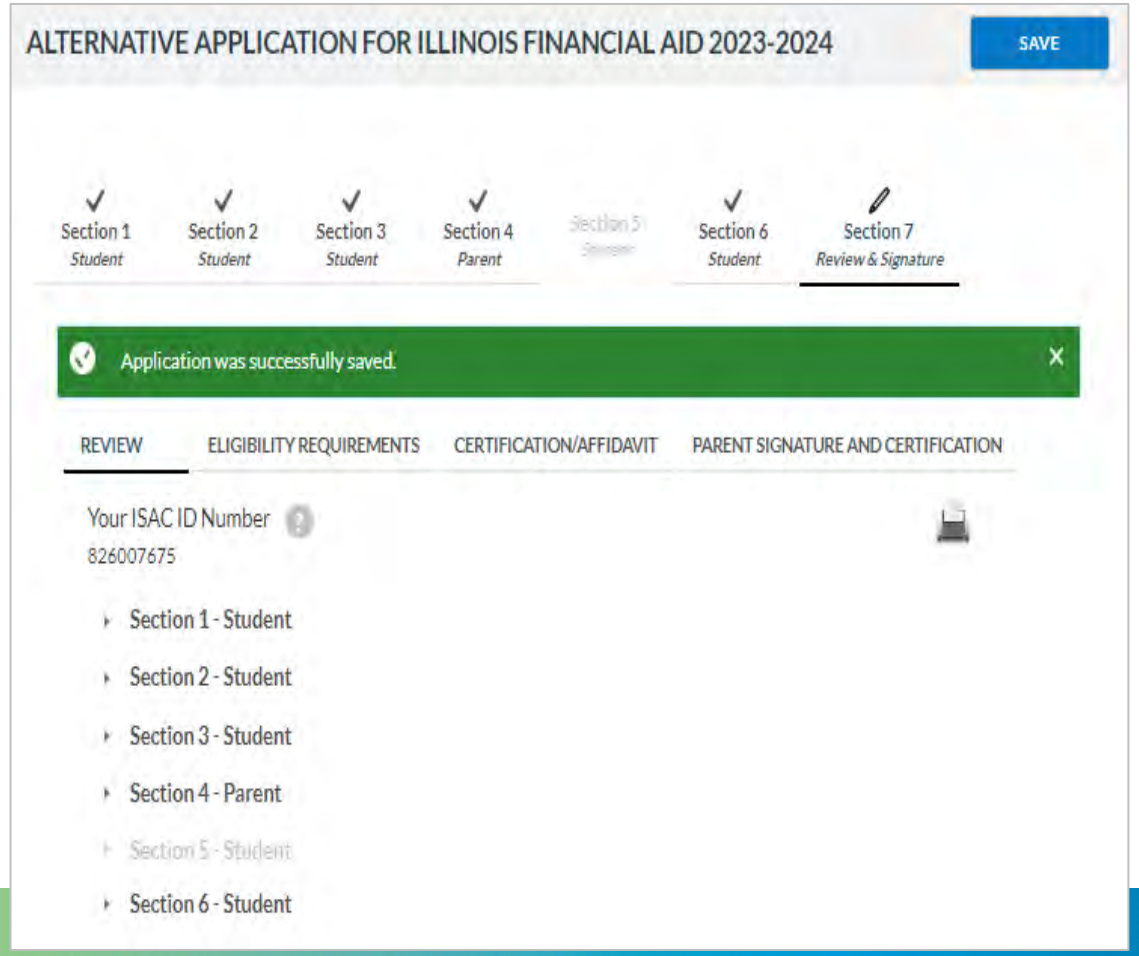


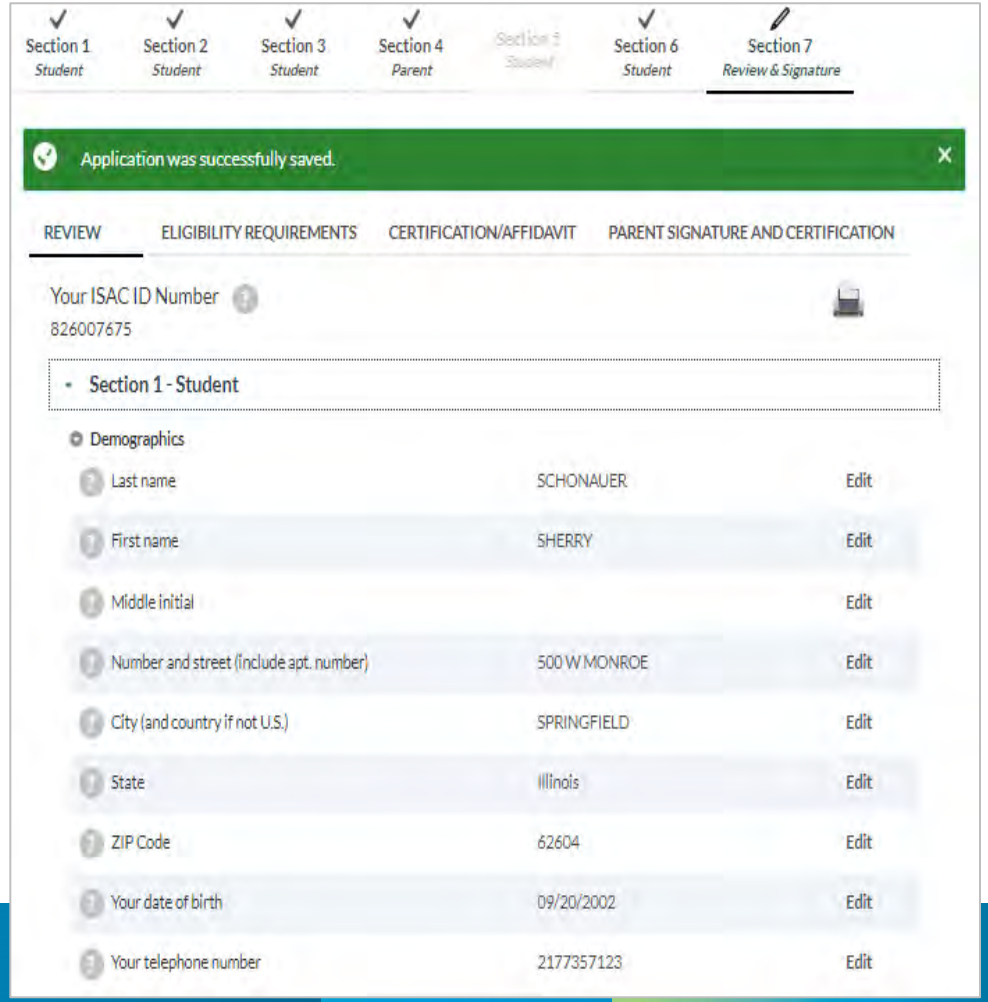


2023-24 Application Screens – Section 7

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

REVIEW | ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS | CERTIFICATION/AFFIDAVIT | PARENT SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION





Signing the Application

- Step 7 of the application provides the opportunity to review all the data entered
  - Students/parents can navigate back to an appropriate section if a correction or update is needed at this point

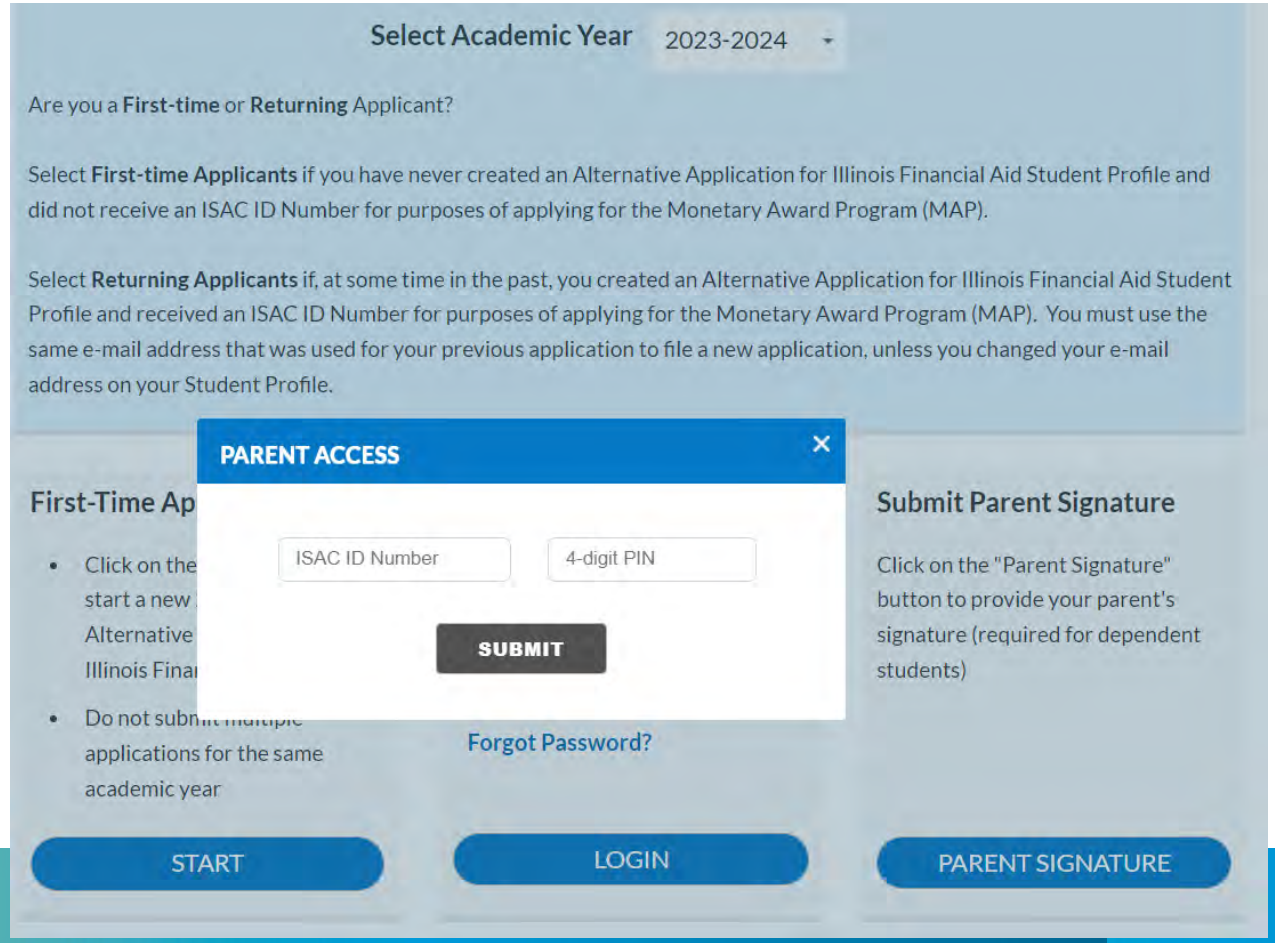
- Student signature process
  - Applicants will be provided with a review of the RISE Act eligibility requirements, followed by the Certification/Affidavit, which is part of the RISE Act eligibility requirements
  - If the applicant agrees with the statements on the certification page, they then click on the Provide Signature button and will be presented with a field to enter their PIN
    - The student's PIN is provided by ISAC in an e-mail to the applicant after the Student Demographics page has been completed in Section 1 of the application
    - The student's PIN is associated with the ISAC ID Number that is created and assigned to the student as part of the application process.

Signing the Application

- Parent signature process
  - The parent may sign the application after the student has completed their signature process either at the same time, or the parent may log in to the student's application at a separate time
  - To log in, a parent will need the Student's ISAC ID number and the parent PIN, which will be provided to the parent in an e-mail after their e-mail address has been provided on the application
  - The field for the parent address is in Section 4, page 1 and is a required field
    - Once the next button is selected to navigate to page 2 of Section 4, an e-mail will be sent to the parent from ISAC and it will include the parent PIN
  - The student and the parent must have separate e-mails

Parent Access to the Application

- Requires the student's ISAC ID Number and the four-digit PIN sent to the parent e-mail address that was provided on the application



Unable to Provide Parent Information

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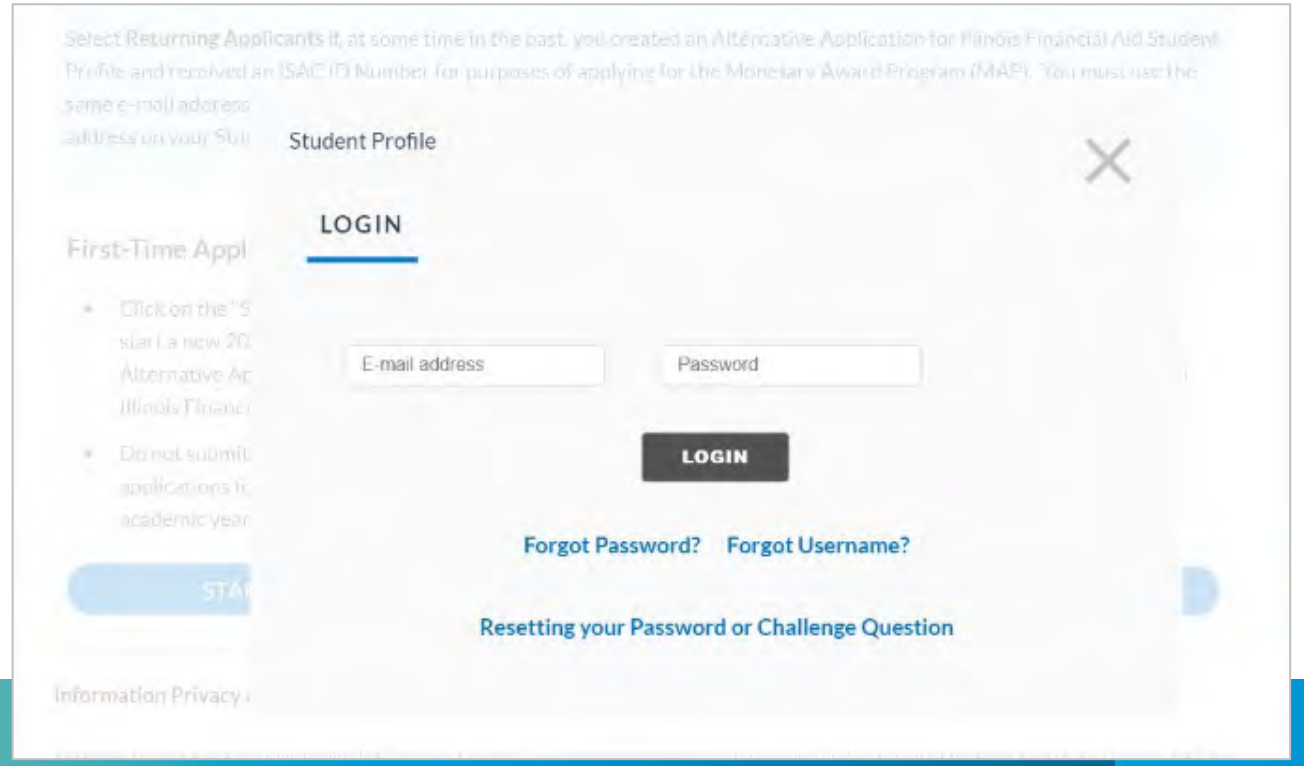
- Dependent students may still be eligible to complete the Alternative Application without parental information if they have an unusual circumstance

- **Unacceptable** reasons for not providing parental information:
  - Parents unwilling to provide information
  - Parents refuse to pay for college
  - Parents do not claim student on taxes
  - Student does not live with parents

Returning Student Access

- Requires the student's Student Profile Username and Password
  - Username is the e-mail address entered when creating the Student Profile
    - It may or may not be the same as the one provided on the application e-mail
  - Password is created by the student and can be updated
  - Challenge question and answer is created by the student and can be updated



Alternative Application - Corrections

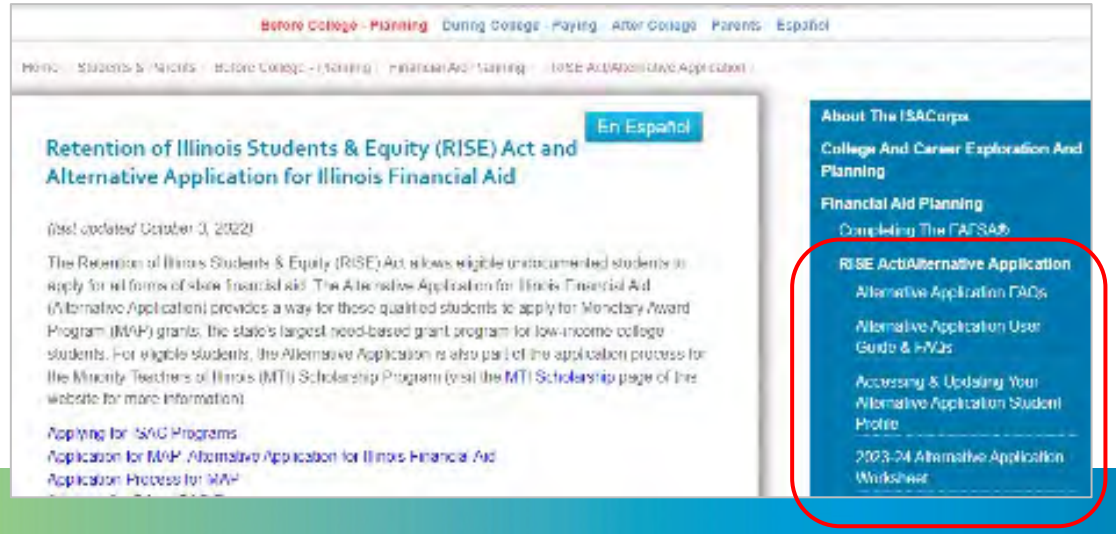
ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

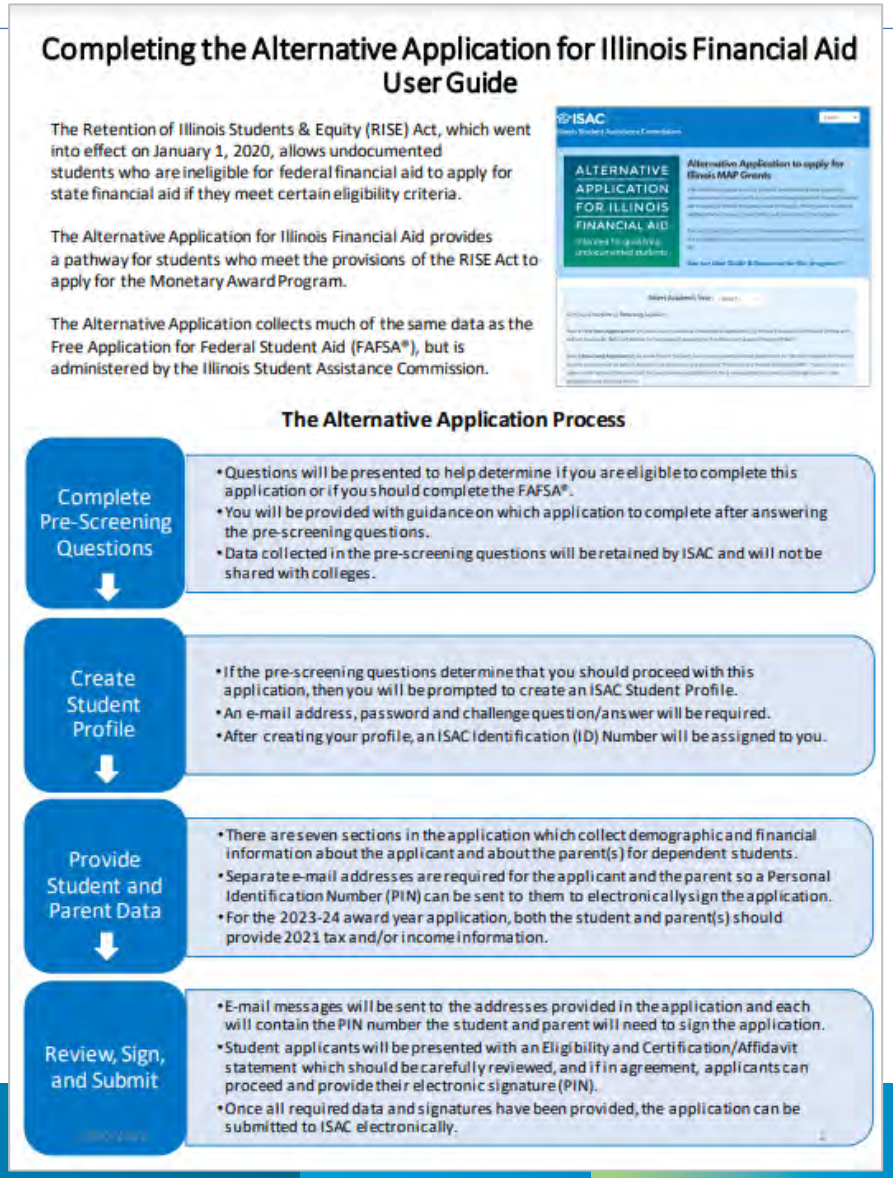
- Any of the data elements, except the ISAC-assigned ID number, can be corrected or updated by the student
- In general, a student should not update information that was correct as of the date it was initially signed and submitted
  - Like the FAFSA, it's considered to be a "snapshot" of the family's financial situation as of that date
- All corrections will require the student to re-sign the application
- If changes are made to parent data, the parent will need to re-sign the app as well
  - Parent will need the student's ISAC ID number and the parent PIN to log in
- Each time a correction or update is made, a new transaction will be generated

Alternative Application Resources

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

- Alternative Application User Guide
  - Intended as a resource for students, parents and counselors
  - Includes information on how to reset a password, update an email address, make corrections, etc.
  - Includes several FAQs at the end of the guide as well as resource links





Completing the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid User Guide

The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act, which went into effect on January 1, 2020, allows undocumented students who are ineligible for federal financial aid to apply for state financial aid if they meet certain eligibility criteria.

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid provides a pathway for students who meet the provisions of the RISE Act to apply for the Monetary Award Program.

The Alternative Application collects much of the same data as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), but is administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

The Alternative Application Process

Complete Pre-Screening Questions

- Questions will be presented to help determine if you are eligible to complete this application or if you should complete the FAFSA®.
- You will be provided with guidance on which application to complete after answering the pre-screening questions.
- Data collected in the pre-screening questions will be retained by ISAC and will not be shared with colleges.

Create Student Profile

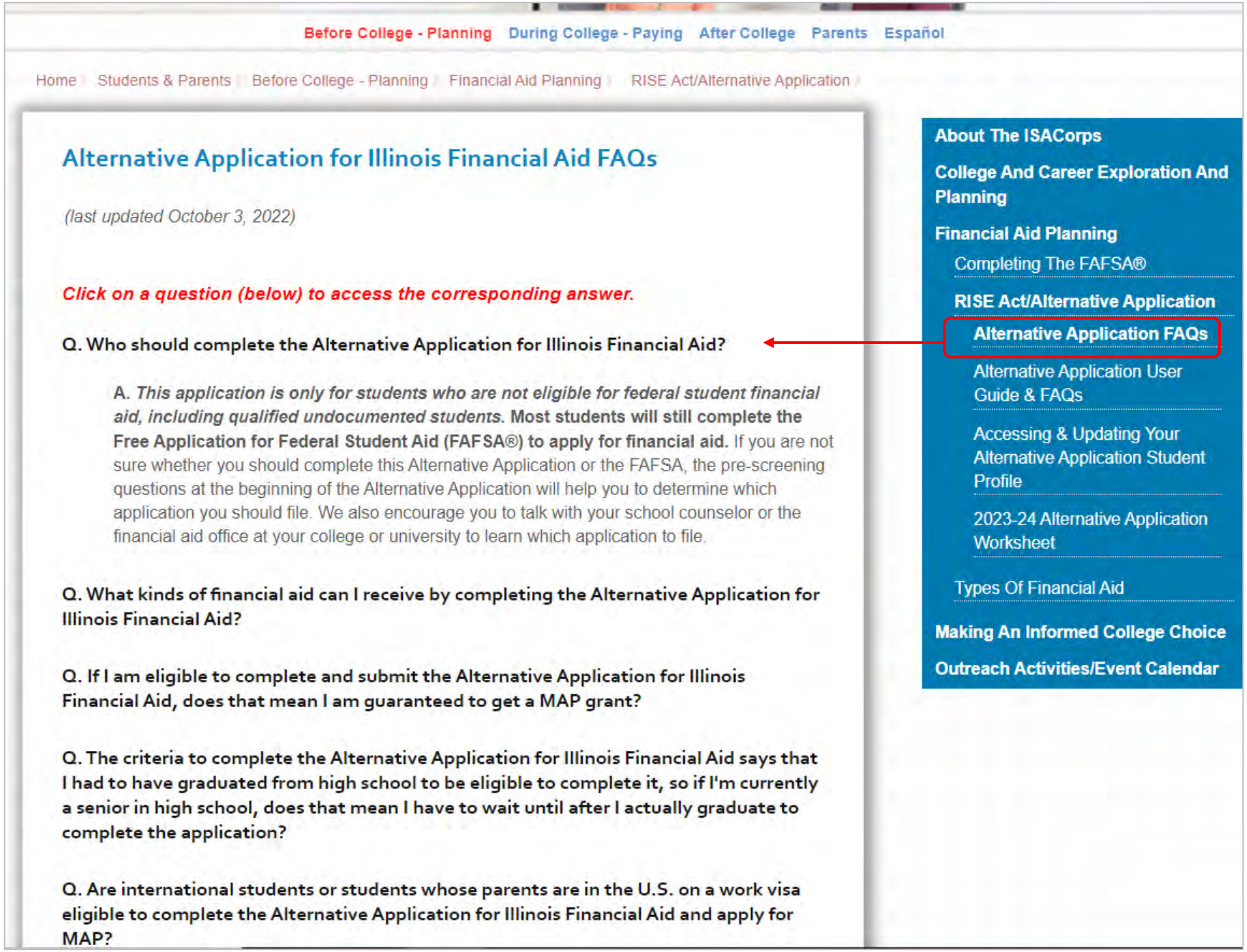
- If the pre-screening questions determine that you should proceed with this application, then you will be prompted to create an ISAC Student Profile.
- An e-mail address, password and challenge question/answer will be required.
- After creating your profile, an ISAC Identification (ID) Number will be assigned to you.

Provide Student and Parent Data

- There are seven sections in the application which collect demographic and financial information about the applicant and about the parent(s) for dependent students.
- Separate e-mail addresses are required for the applicant and the parent so a Personal Identification Number (PIN) can be sent to them to electronically sign the application.
- For the 2023-24 award year application, both the student and parent(s) should provide 2021 tax and/or income information.

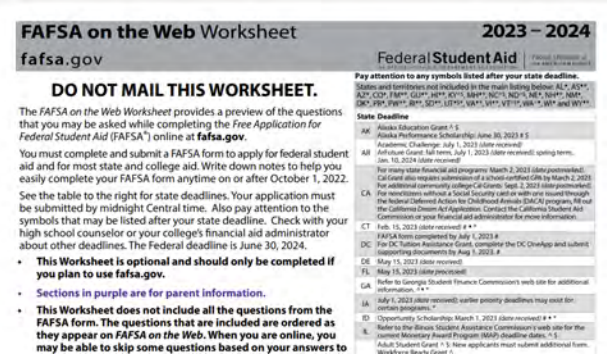
Review, Sign, and Submit

- E-mail messages will be sent to the addresses provided in the application and each will contain the PIN number the student and parent will need to sign the application.
- Student applicants will be presented with an Eligibility and Certification/Affidavit statement which should be carefully reviewed, and if in agreement, applicants can proceed and provide their electronic signature (PIN).
- Once all required data and signatures have been provided, the application can be submitted to ISAC electronically.


Before College - Planning
During College - Paying
After College
Parents
Español
Home
Students & Parents
Before College - Planning
Financial Aid Planning
RISE Act/Alternative Application
Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid FAQs
(last updated October 3, 2022)
Click on a question (below) to access the corresponding answer.
Q. Who should complete the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid?
A. This application is only for students who are not eligible for federal student financial aid, including qualified undocumented students. Most students will still complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) to apply for financial aid. If you are not sure whether you should complete this Alternative Application or the FAFSA, the pre-screening questions at the beginning of the Alternative Application will help you to determine which application you should file. We also encourage you to talk with your school counselor or the financial aid office at your college or university to learn which application to file.
Q. What kinds of financial aid can I receive by completing the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid?
Q. If I am eligible to complete and submit the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, does that mean I am guaranteed to get a MAP grant?
Q. The criteria to complete the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid says that I had to have graduated from high school to be eligible to complete it, so if I'm currently a senior in high school, does that mean I have to wait until after I actually graduate to complete the application?
Q. Are international students or students whose parents are in the U.S. on a work visa eligible to complete the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid and apply for MAP?
About The ISACorps
College And Career Exploration And Planning
Financial Aid Planning
Completing The FAFSA®
RISE Act/Alternative Application
Alternative Application FAQs
Alternative Application User Guide & FAQs
Accessing & Updating Your Alternative Application Student Profile
2023-24 Alternative Application Worksheet
Types Of Financial Aid
Making An Informed College Choice
Outreach Activities/Event Calendar

Alternative Application Resources

- Alternative Application Worksheet
  - Patterned after the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet



FAFSA on the Web Worksheet 2023 – 2024

fafsa.gov Federal Student Aid

DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET.

The *FAFSA on the Web Worksheet* provides a preview of the questions that you may be asked while completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) online at **fafsa.gov**.

You must complete and submit a FAFSA form to apply for federal student aid and for most state and college aid. Write down notes to help you easily complete your FAFSA form anytime on or after October 1, 2022.

See the table to the right for state deadlines. Your application must be submitted by midnight Central time. Also pay attention to the symbols that may be listed after your state deadline. Check with your high school counselor or your college's financial aid administrator about other deadlines. The Federal deadline is June 30, 2024.

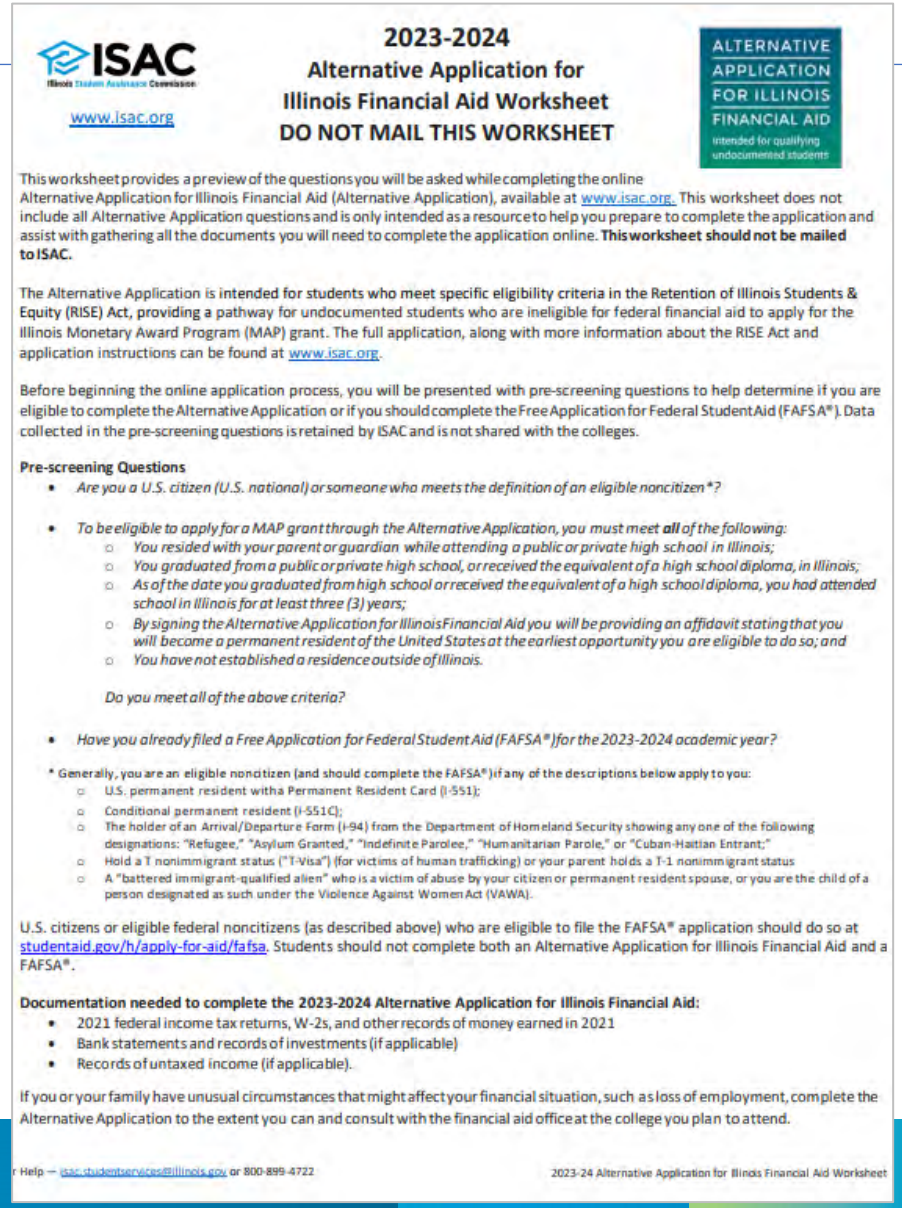
- **This Worksheet is optional and should only be completed if you plan to use fafsa.gov.**
- **Sections in purple are for parent information.**
- **This Worksheet does not include all the questions from the FAFSA form. The questions that are included are ordered as they appear on *FAFSA on the Web*. When you are online, you may be able to skip some questions based on your answers to**

Pay attention to any symbols listed after your state deadline.

States and territories not included in the main listing below: AL*, AS**, AZ*, CO*, FM**, GU*, HI**, KY**, MH**, NC*†, ND*†, ME*, NH**, NM*, OK*, PR*, PW**, RI**, SD**, UT**, VA*†, VI**, VT*†, WA *, WI* and WY**.

	State Deadline
AK	Alaska Education Grant ^ § Alaska Performance Scholarship: June 30, 2023 # § Academic Challenge: July 1, 2023 (date received)
AR	Arkansas Grant: fall term, July 1, 2023 (date received); spring term, Jan. 10, 2024 (date received)
CA	For many state financial aid programs: March 2, 2023 (date postmarked). Cal Grant also requires submission of a school-certified GPA by March 2, 2023. For additional community college Cal Grants: Sept. 2, 2023 (date postmarked). For noncitizens without a Social Security card or with one issued through the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, fill out the California Dream Act Application. Contact the California Student Aid Commission or your financial aid administrator for more information.
CT	Feb. 15, 2023 (date received) # * ^
DC	FAFSA form completed by July 1, 2023 # For DC Tuition Assistance Grant, complete the DC OneApp and submit supporting documents by Aug 1, 2023. #
DE	May 15, 2023 (date received)
FL	May 15, 2023 (date received)
GA	Refer to Georgia Student Finance Commission's web site for additional information. # *
IA	July 1, 2023 (date received); earlier priority deadlines may exist for certain programs. *
ID	Opportunity Scholarship: March 1, 2023 (date received) # * ^
IL	Refer to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's web site for the current Monetary Award Program (MAP) deadline dates. ^ §
	Adult Student Grant ^ §: New applicants must submit additional form.

- Helps student know what to expect
  - Documents needed
  - What questions are asked
  - What the student certification and parent signature sections includes
- Alternative Application Worksheet should not be submitted to ISAC



ISAC

www.isac.org

2023-2024
Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet
DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID
intended for qualifying undocumented students

This worksheet provides a preview of the questions you will be asked while completing the online Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application), available at www.isac.org. This worksheet does not include all Alternative Application questions and is only intended as a resource to help you prepare to complete the application and assist with gathering all the documents you will need to complete the application online. **This worksheet should not be mailed to ISAC.**

The Alternative Application is intended for students who meet specific eligibility criteria in the Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act, providing a pathway for undocumented students who are ineligible for federal financial aid to apply for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant. The full application, along with more information about the RISE Act and application instructions can be found at www.isac.org.

Before beginning the online application process, you will be presented with pre-screening questions to help determine if you are eligible to complete the Alternative Application or if you should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). Data collected in the pre-screening questions is retained by ISAC and is not shared with the colleges.

Pre-screening Questions

- *Are you a U.S. citizen (U.S. national) or someone who meets the definition of an eligible noncitizen*?*
- *To be eligible to apply for a MAP grant through the Alternative Application, you must meet **all** of the following:*
  - *You resided with your parent or guardian while attending a public or private high school in Illinois;*
  - *You graduated from a public or private high school, or received the equivalent of a high school diploma, in Illinois;*
  - *As of the date you graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma, you had attended school in Illinois for at least three (3) years;*
  - *By signing the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid you will be providing an affidavit stating that you will become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity you are eligible to do so; and*
  - *You have not established a residence outside of Illinois.*

  Do you meet all of the above criteria?
- *Have you already filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) for the 2023-2024 academic year?*

* Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen (and should complete the FAFSA®) if any of the descriptions below apply to you:

- U.S. permanent resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551);
- Conditional permanent resident (I-551C);
- The holder of an Arrival/Departure Form (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Indefinite Parolee," "Humanitarian Parole," or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant;"
- Hold a T nonimmigrant status ("T-Visa") (for victims of human trafficking) or your parent holds a T-1 nonimmigrant status
- A "battered immigrant-qualified alien" who is a victim of abuse by your citizen or permanent resident spouse, or you are the child of a person designated as such under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

U.S. citizens or eligible federal noncitizens (as described above) who are eligible to file the FAFSA® application should do so at studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Students should not complete both an Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid and a FAFSA®.

Documentation needed to complete the 2023-2024 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid:

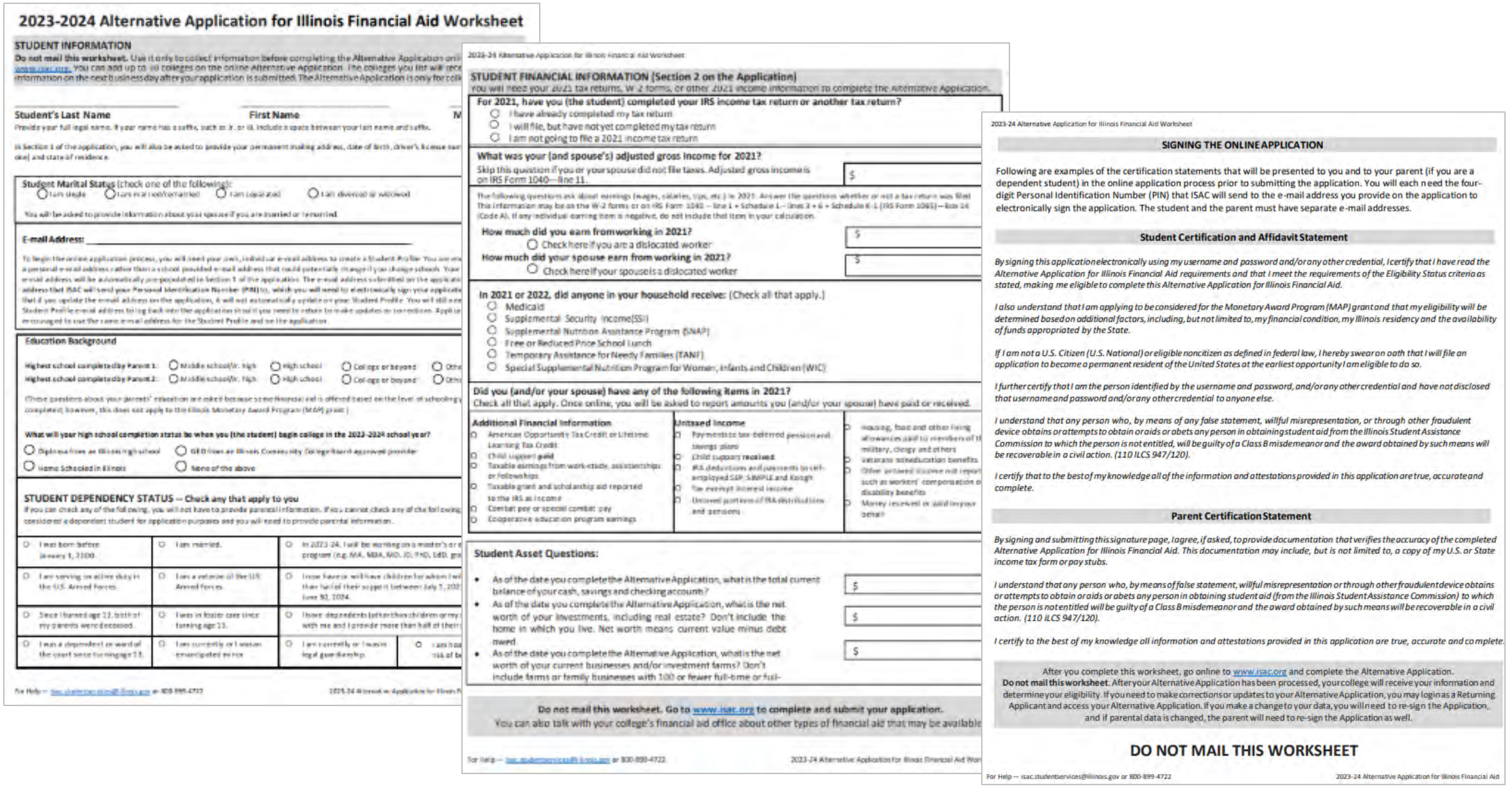
- 2021 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned in 2021
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable).

If you or your family have unusual circumstances that might affect your financial situation, such as loss of employment, complete the Alternative Application to the extent you can and consult with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend.

Help – isac.studentservices@illinois.gov or 800-899-4722

2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet

Alternative Application Worksheet



2023-2024 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet

STUDENT INFORMATION

Do not mail this worksheet. Use it only to collect information before completing the Alternative Application online at www.isac.org. You can add up to 10 colleges on the online Alternative Application. The colleges you list will receive information on the next business day after your application is submitted. The Alternative Application is only for college

Student's Last Name _____ First Name _____ M

Provide your full legal name. If your name has a suffix, such as Jr. or III, include a space between your last name and suffix.

In Section 1 of the application, you will also be asked to provide your permanent mailing address, date of birth, driver's license number and state of residence.

Student Marital Status (check one of the following):
○ I am single ○ I am married/remarried ○ I am separated ○ I am divorced or widowed

You will be asked to provide information about your spouse if you are married or remarried.

E-mail Address: _____

To begin the online application process, you will need your own, individual e-mail address to create a Student Profile. You are encouraged to use a personal e-mail address rather than a school provided e-mail address that could potentially change if you change schools. Your e-mail address will be automatically pre-populated in Section 1 of the application. The e-mail address submitted on the application is the address that ISAC will send your Personal Identification Number (PIN) to, which you will need to electronically sign your application. Note that if you update the e-mail address on the application, it will not automatically update on your Student Profile. You will still need to update your Student Profile e-mail address to log back into the application should you need to return to make updates or corrections. Applicants are encouraged to use the same e-mail address for the Student Profile and on the application.

Education Background

Highest school completed by Parent 1: ○ Middle school/Jr. high ○ High school ○ College or beyond ○ Other
Highest school completed by Parent 2: ○ Middle school/Jr. high ○ High school ○ College or beyond ○ Other

(These questions about your parents' education are asked because some financial aid is offered based on the level of schooling completed; however, this does not apply to the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant.)

What will your high school completion status be when you (the student) begin college in the 2023-2024 school year?

○ Diploma from an Illinois high school ○ GED from an Illinois Community College Board approved provider
○ Home Schooled in Illinois ○ None of the above

STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS -- Check any that apply to you

If you can check any of the following, you will not have to provide parental information. If you cannot check any of the following, you are considered a dependent student for application purposes and you will need to provide parental information.

○ I was born before January 1, 2000.	○ I am married.	○ In 2023-24, I will be working on a master's or doctorate program (e.g. MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, etc.).
○ I am serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.	○ I am a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.	○ I have have/will have children for whom I will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.
○ Since I turned age 13, both of my parents were deceased.	○ I was in foster care since turning age 13.	○ I have dependents (other than children or my spouse) who live with me and I provide more than half of their support.
○ I was a dependent or ward of the court since turning age 13.	○ I am currently or I was in emancipation minor.	○ I am currently or I was in legal guardianship.

For Help — isac.studentservices@illinois.gov or 800-899-4722 2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet

STUDENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Section 2 on the Application)

You will need your 2021 tax returns, W-2 forms, or other 2021 income information to complete the Alternative Application.

For 2021, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?
○ I have already completed my tax return
○ I will file, but have not yet completed my tax return
○ I am not going to file a 2021 income tax return

What was your (and spouse's) adjusted gross income for 2021?
Skip this question if you or your spouse did not file taxes. Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 11. $ _____

The following questions ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on IRS Form 1040 – line 1 + Schedule 1 – lines 3 + 6 + Schedule K-1 (IRS Form 1065) – Box 14 (Code A). If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

How much did you earn from working in 2021?
○ Check here if you are a dislocated worker $ _____

How much did your spouse earn from working in 2021?
○ Check here if your spouse is a dislocated worker $ _____

In 2021 or 2022, did anyone in your household receive: (Check all that apply.)
○ Medicaid
○ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
○ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
○ Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
○ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
○ Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Did you (and/or your spouse) have any of the following items in 2021?
Check all that apply. Once online, you will be asked to report amounts you (and/or your spouse) have paid or received.

Additional Financial Information
○ American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit
○ Child support paid
○ Taxable earnings from work-study, assistantships or fellowships
○ Taxable grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS as income
○ Combat pay or special combat pay
○ Cooperative education program earnings

Untaxed Income
○ Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans
○ Child support received
○ IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and Keogh
○ Tax-exempt interest income
○ Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions
○ Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others
○ Veterans noneducation benefits
○ Other untaxed income not reported such as workers' compensation or disability benefits
○ Money received or paid on your behalf

Student Asset Questions:

- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the total current balance of your cash, savings and checking accounts? $ _____
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your investments, including real estate? Don't include the home in which you live. Net worth means current value minus debt owed. $ _____
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your current businesses and/or investment farms? Don't include farms or family businesses with 100 or fewer full-time or full- $ _____

Do not mail this worksheet. Go to www.isac.org to complete and submit your application.
You can also talk with your college's financial aid office about other types of financial aid that may be available

For Help — isac.studentservices@illinois.gov or 800-899-4722 2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Wor

2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet

SIGNING THE ONLINE APPLICATION

Following are examples of the certification statements that will be presented to you and to your parent (if you are a dependent student) in the online application process prior to submitting the application. You will each need the four-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) that ISAC will send to the e-mail address you provide on the application to electronically sign the application. The student and the parent must have separate e-mail addresses.

Student Certification and Affidavit Statement

By signing this application electronically using my username and password and/or any other credential, I certify that I have read the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid requirements and that I meet the requirements of the Eligibility Status criteria as stated, making me eligible to complete this Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

I also understand that I am applying to be considered for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant and that my eligibility will be determined based on additional factors, including, but not limited to, my financial condition, my Illinois residency and the availability of funds appropriated by the State.

If I am not a U.S. Citizen (U.S. National) or eligible noncitizen as defined in federal law, I hereby swear on oath that I will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity I am eligible to do so.

I further certify that I am the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password and/or any other credential to anyone else.

I understand that any person who, by means of any false statement, willful misrepresentation, or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to which the person is not entitled, will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120).

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

Parent Certification Statement

By signing and submitting this signature page, I agree, if asked, to provide documentation that verifies the accuracy of the completed Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, a copy of my U.S. or State income tax form or pay stubs.

I understand that any person who, by means of false statement, willful misrepresentation or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid (from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission) to which the person is not entitled will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120).

I certify to the best of my knowledge all information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

After you complete this worksheet, go online to www.isac.org and complete the Alternative Application.
Do not mail this worksheet. After your Alternative Application has been processed, your college will receive your information and determine your eligibility. If you need to make corrections or updates to your Alternative Application, you may log in as a Returning Applicant and access your Alternative Application. If you make a change to your data, you will need to re-sign the Application, and if parental data is changed, the parent will need to re-sign the Application as well.

DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET

For Help — isac.studentservices@illinois.gov or 800-899-4722 2023-24 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

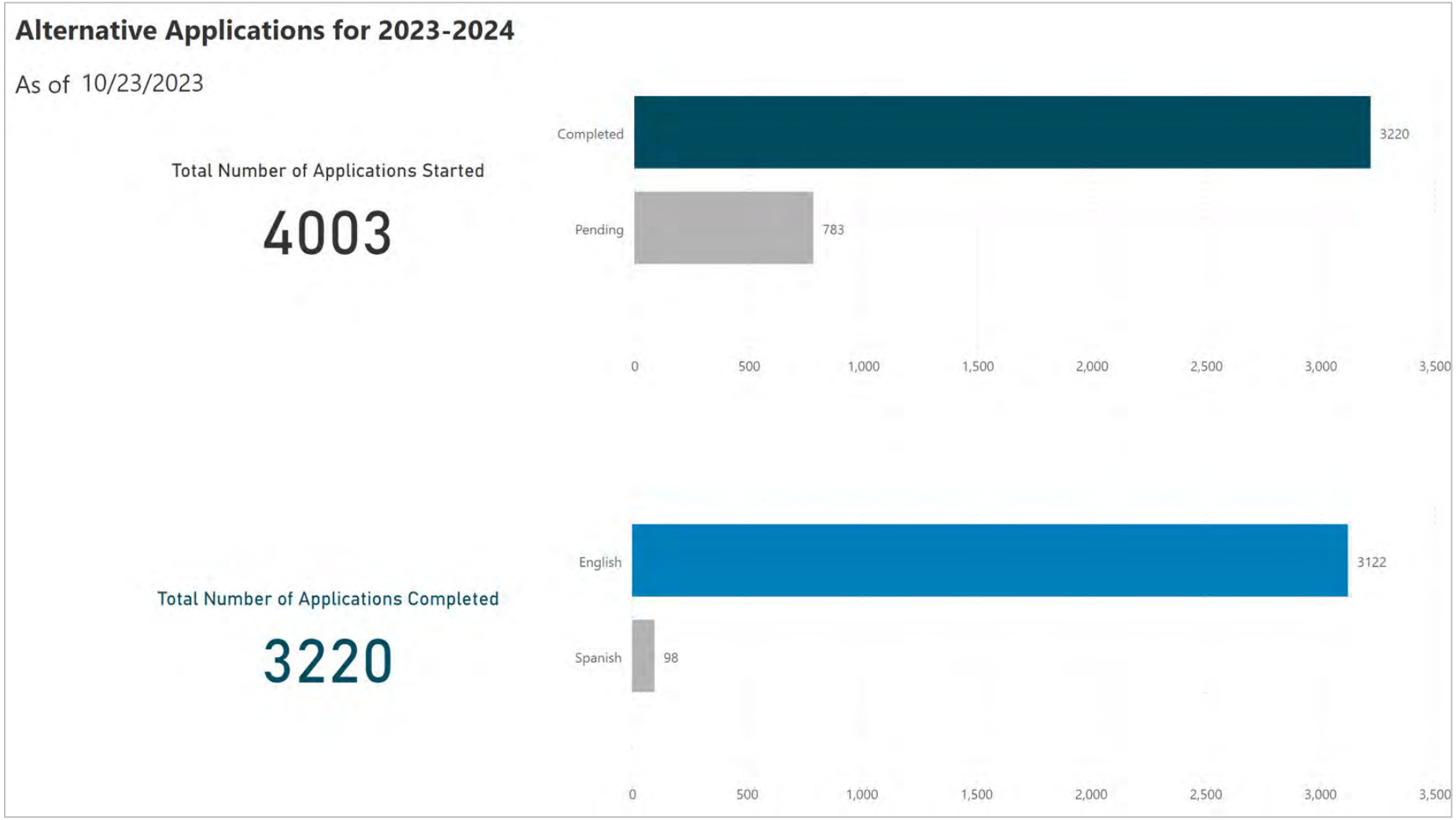
Alternative Application or FAFSA?

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

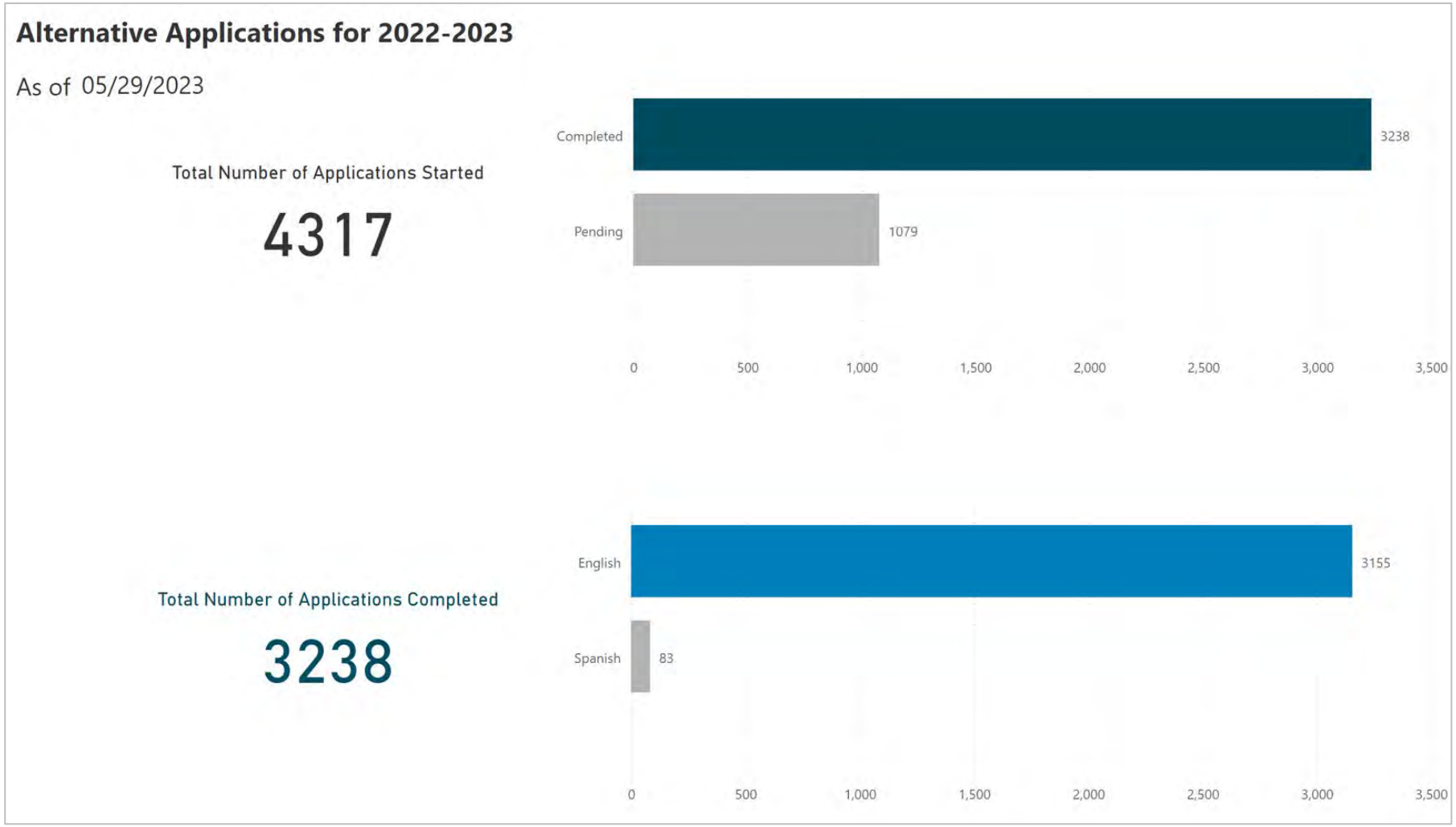
- A student should complete either the FAFSA or the Alternative Application, depending on their eligibility and other considerations in determining which application to file.

- In general, a student should not complete both applications, however, please note the following exceptions:
  - If the student filed an Alternative Application, but then becomes eligible for federal aid, it would be acceptable to file a FAFSA for the same award year.
  - If the student filed a FAFSA and it was rejected due to their citizenship status, they are encouraged to file an Alternative Application for the same award year if they meet all RISE Act eligibility requirements

2023-24 Application Volume



2022-23 Application Volume



Questions/Comments

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

Contact Information

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Program Services & Compliance Division, ISAC
kimberly.eck@illinois.gov
217-785-7139

ISAC FAFSA SYMPOSIUM

Thank you!