

AGENDA ITEM 9.

PROPOSED RULES AND AMENDMENTS

Submitted for: Action

Summary: This item reports on the agency's proposed omnibus rules and amendments, the text of which was published in the **Illinois Register** on February 7, 2003 and presented to the Commission at its January 31 meeting. Initial publication of the proposed rules and amendments triggered a 45-day public comment period that ended on March 21, 2003.

In order to maximize the opportunity for public comment, in addition to being published in the **Illinois Register**, the proposed rules and amendments were also posted to ISAC's Web site. Staff also solicited feedback through various advisory groups, including the ILASFAA Operations/Rules Advisory Committee.

Two letters of public comment on proposed rules and amendments were received, both from financial aid administrators. One letter was written in support of the proposed amendments to the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship and DeBolt Teacher Shortage Scholarship (DTSS) Programs, and therefore requires no further action. A second letter commented on a proposed amendment to the Illinois National Guard Grant Program. Following discussions between ISAC staff and the commenter in which operational aspects of the proposed change were reviewed, it was determined that no further action was required. While a number of technical and grammatical changes were made in response to suggestions from the staff of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR), the rules and amendments presented for consideration today contain no substantive changes from those presented to the Commission at its January meeting.

Following acceptance of the revised proposed rules and amendments by the Commission, the Executive Director may direct staff to submit the rules and amendments to JCAR, thus initiating the second 45-day review period.

Action requested: That the Commission approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission accepts the revised proposed rules and amendments, as modified thus far during the rulemaking process.”