

AGENDA ITEM 13.

FY2009 MONETARY AWARD PROGRAM (MAP) AND SILAS PURNELL ILLINOIS INCENTIVE FOR ACCESS (IIA) APPLICATION VOLUME UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND

Submitted for: Action

Summary: FY2009 MAP Application Volume: As of June 6th, 233,581 undergraduate Illinois residents had completed a FY2009 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and requested that a MAP-eligible school receive their data. This is 17,576 more prospective students than had applied at this time last year, for an increase of 8.1 percent. The number of these announced applicants who are eligible for MAP is 7.3 percent higher than last year; 142,665 compared to 132,984. Table 1 compares FY2008 and FY2009 announced and eligible MAP applicants by school and dependency type.

Table 1: Comparison of FY2008 and FY2009 MAP Applications at Mid-June By Sector and Dependency Type				
	FY2008	FY2009	# Change	%Change
Announced Applications	216,005	233,581	17,576	8.1%
Eligible Applications	132,984	142,665	9,681	7.3%
Announced MAP Applications				
Public Universities	79,303	82,257	2,954	3.7%
Private Institutions	63,070	66,829	3,759	6.0%
Community Colleges	64,483	74,808	10,325	16.0%
Proprietary	9,149	9,677	528	5.8%
Dependent	135,563	146,443	10,880	8.0%
Independent w/out Dependents	33,909	35,930	2,021	6.0%
Independent With Dependents	46,533	51,208	4,675	10.0%
MAP-Eligible Applications				
Public Universities	42,057	43,114	1,057	2.5%
Private Institutions	37,008	38,769	1,761	4.8%
Community Colleges	46,979	53,524	6,545	13.9%
Proprietary	6,940	7,258	318	4.6%
Dependent	66,776	71,434	4,658	7.0%
Independent w/out Dependents	24,525	25,581	1,056	4.3%
Independent With Dependents	41,683	45,650	3,967	9.5%

Although the rising application volume is found in all sectors, the increase is most profound at community colleges; 10,325 more prospective students have applied, for a 16 percent increase, and eligible applicants are up nearly 14 percent. At public universities, announced applications are up 3.7 percent and eligible applications are up 2.5 percent. Private school announced and eligible application volumes have increased 6.0 percent and 4.8 percent, respectively; proprietary school increases are 5.8 percent and 4.6 percent.

Announced and eligible application volumes increased for each dependency type. There are 4,658 more eligible dependent applicants (7.0 percent increase); 1,056 more eligible independent applicants without dependents (4.3 percent increase); and 3,967 more independent applicants with dependents (9.5 percent increase.)

Average incomes for FY2009 applicants are higher than last year. Parental income for announced dependent applicants rose from \$68,143 to \$69,346 and the average federal expected family contribution (EFC) increased from \$11,939 to \$12,362. The percentage of announced dependent applicants eligible for MAP remained constant at 49 percent. Average parental income for eligible dependent applicants decreased from \$32,649 to \$31,523 and the average EFC for MAP-eligible dependent applicants decreased from \$2,228 to \$2,149.

The average income for announced independent applicants increased from \$23,349 last year to \$24,056, while the average EFC increased \$162 to \$3,064. Nearly 82 percent of announced independent applicants are MAP-eligible. Average income for eligible independents increased less than one percent to \$17,404; the average EFC barely increased, from \$984 to \$994.

FY2009 IIA Application Volume: As of June 6th there were 26,285 applicants eligible for the IIA program; this represents a 17.9 percent increase over last year. Eligible IIA applicants are freshmen with very limited resources to pay for college. Although program rules allow for \$1,000 awards to freshmen with zero EFCs and \$500 to freshmen with EFCs of \$1 to \$500, program funding only allows for \$500 awards to freshmen with a zero EFC. Table 2 shows IIA-eligible applicants by sector and dependency type.

Table 2: Comparison of FY2008 and FY2009 IIA Eligible Applicants: Freshmen With Zero Expected Family Contributions				
	FY2008	FY2009	# Change	% Change
Eligible Applications	22,297	26,285	3,988	17.9%
Public Universities	3,973	4,557	584	15.2%
Community Colleges	13,604	16,502	2,898	21.3%
Private Institutions	3,399	3,872	473	13.9%
Proprietary Institutions	1,321	1,354	33	2.5%
Dependent	9,314	11,399	2,085	22.4%
Independent	12,983	14,886	1,903	14.7%

The largest increase is at community colleges, where eligible application volume is 21.3 percent higher than last year. The number of eligible applicants and percentage increases are lower in other sectors; 15.2 percent more at public universities, 13.9 percent more at private schools, and 2.5 percent more at proprietary schools. Application volume for IIA-eligible dependent students is 22.4 percent higher than last year and 14.7 more independent applicants are eligible for IIA. The FY2009 IIA appropriation is expected to be a level \$8.2 million.

Given the upward trend in announced and eligible application volume and anticipated level appropriations, the Commission will need to suspend award announcements for MAP and IIA. Staff currently estimates the IIA suspension will need to be in mid-July. The MAP suspense date depends upon adoption of the FY2009 recompute formula, the final MAP appropriation, and volume trends, but will likely be in late July.

Action requested:

Staff requests Commission authorization to suspend FY2009 award announcements when necessary to avoid overcommitting MAP and IIA appropriations.