

AGENDA ITEM 7.

**PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM
RULES AND AMENDMENTS**

AGENDA ITEM 7.

PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM RULES AND AMENDMENTS

Submitted for: Action

Summary: This item reports on the agency's proposed administrative program rules and amendments. Amendments are being proposed to six Parts at this time, and a new Part was written for a new program created through legislation; a listing of the Parts is below. The full text of the proposed rules and amendments and Notices are included in this item. The Notices that precede each Part contain descriptions of the subjects and issues involved in the rulemaking process.

Part 2733 – Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program

Part 2750 – Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program (new program)

Part 2752 – Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program

Part 2763 – Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program

Part 2764 – Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program

Part 2765 – Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program

Part 2766 – AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program

Text of the proposed program rules and amendments was published in the October 20, 2023, *Illinois Register*, initiating a 45-day public comment period that will expire on December 3, 2023. As of the writing of this agenda item, no public comments have been received.

The proposed program rules and amendments are being presented to the Commission for consideration. Following acceptance by the Commission, the Executive Director may direct staff to submit the proposed program rules and amendments to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR), initiating a second 45-day review period and the JCAR hearing, after which, if no material objection is made by JCAR, the Executive Director will move to adopt the rules and amendments.

Action requested: That the Commission approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission accepts the proposed administrative program rules and amendments for submission to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) and, barring any unresolved objection by JCAR or material modification (unless the material modification is made to ensure compliance with any prospective amendments to the statute(s) governing these rules), the Commission

authorizes the Executive Director to proceed with adopting the program rules as written and amended.”

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ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- 1) Heading of the Part: Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2733
- 3) Section Number: 2733.40 Proposed Action:
Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Section 40 and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/40 and 20(f)].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to clarify the institutional procedure for reporting of eligibility units.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217-782-5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendment begins on the next page:

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2733
ILLINOIS VETERAN GRANT (IVG) PROGRAM

Section	
2733.10	Summary and Purpose
2733.20	Applicant Eligibility
2733.30	Program Procedures
2733.40	Institutional Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing Section 40 and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/40 and 20(f)].

SOURCE: Emergency rule adopted at 10 Ill. Reg. 14322, effective August 20, 1986 for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired January 16, 1987; adopted at 11 Ill. Reg. 3207, effective January 29, 1987; amended at 12 Ill. Reg. 11536, effective July 1, 1988; transferred from Chapter IX, 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1733 (State Scholarship Commission) to Chapter XIX, 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2733 (Illinois Student Assistance Commission) pursuant to P.A. 86-168, effective July 1, 1989, at 13 Ill. Reg. 17858; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 10571, effective July 1, 1990; emergency amendments at 15 Ill. Reg. 15613, effective October 11, 1991, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired March 9, 1992; emergency amendment at 15 Ill. Reg. 18778, effective January 1, 1992, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 6880, effective April 14, 1992; amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 11261, effective July 1, 1992; amended at 17 Ill. Reg. 10570, effective July 1, 1993; amended at 18 Ill. Reg. 10309, effective July 1, 1994; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 9200, effective July 1, 1996; old Part repealed and new Part adopted at 21 Ill. Reg. 11139, effective July 18, 1997; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 11114, effective July 1, 1998; amended at 23 Ill. Reg. 7575, effective July 1, 1999; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 9166, effective July 1, 2000; amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 8418, effective July 1, 2001; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 10020, effective July 1, 2002; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 10342, effective July 1, 2003; emergency amendment at 28 Ill. Reg. 12932, effective September 15, 2004, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 2462, effective February 1, 2005; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 9912, effective July 1, 2005; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 11646, effective July 1, 2006; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 10313, effective July 1, 2008; amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 9426, effective July 1, 2012; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 9522, effective July 1, 2013; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 8425, effective July 1, 2015; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13628, effective July 1, 2018, emergency amendment at 43 Ill. Reg. 10804, effective September 18, 2019, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 2893, effective February 1, 2020; amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 11019, effective

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July 1, 2020; amended at 46 Ill. Reg. 12066, effective July 1, 2022; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. 2447, effective February 6, 2023; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2733.40 Institutional Procedures

- a) If a student is eligible for both an IVG and a Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant, the IVG benefits must be used first. A student cannot decline IVG benefits in favor of using MAP.
- b) If a student is eligible for, and has indicated to the institution the intent to receive educational assistance through, the Post-9/11 GI Bill (38 U.S.C., Chapter 33), the institution must first apply Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to the student's financial aid award. IVG benefits can then be used to cover the remaining IVG eligible tuition and mandatory fees.
- c) A notice of eligibility from ISAC must be used by the institution to establish a qualified applicant's initial eligibility.
- d) Institutions shall submit a payment request to ISAC.
- e) So that ISAC can accurately track the recipient's use of eligibility units, institutions~~Institutions~~ must report the total number of hours (including credit and noncredit hours) for which payment is being requested, even if IVG is paying only a portion of the charges for a course due to a withdrawal ~~(including credit and noncredit hours)~~ so that ISAC can accurately track the recipient's use of eligibility units.
- f) ISAC will annually establish priority claim dates for the submission of payment requests and inform institutions of the required priority dates. For the summer term, the priority claim date will be during the month of September; for the fall term, the priority claim date will be during the month of December; for the spring term, the priority claim date will be during the month of May.
- g) The reimbursement to institutions for Illinois Veteran Grants is contingent upon available funding. Should General Assembly appropriations be insufficient to pay all claims, institutions will be reimbursed in accordance with this subsection:
 - 1) summer term claims received by the deadline date designated in subsection (f) will be paid, or prorated if funding is insufficient to pay all claims in full;

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- 2) if funds remain after summer term claims are paid, first semester and first quarter claims received by the designated deadline date will be paid, or prorated if funding is insufficient to pay all claims in full;
 - 3) if funds remain after first semester and first quarter claims are paid, then second semester/second and third quarter claims received by the designated deadline date will be paid, or prorated if funds remaining are insufficient to pay all such claims in full;
 - 4) if funds remain after second semester/second and third quarter claims are paid, claims received by ISAC after the designated deadline dates will be paid or prorated; and
 - 5) timely claims for the difference between in-district/state and out-of-district/state tuition for recipients who do not qualify for chargebacks will be considered for payment at the same time, and in the same priority order, as all other timely claims, in accordance with the provisions of this subsection (g).
- h) Institutions are required to reconcile payments, both payment data and actual funds, received through IVG and, as applicable, submit all necessary corrections to student records on a timely basis.
- 1) Within 30 days after and including the date of receiving payment of any IVG funds claimed pursuant to this Section, the institution shall credit the IVG funds against the recipient's tuition and mandatory fee charges for the appropriate term.
 - 2) Within 30 days after the end of an academic term during which IVG funds are credited to recipient's tuition and mandatory fee charges, institutions must reconcile data received from ISAC as a result of payment claim processing against the eligibility status throughout that term for each student for whom payment claims were made. In reconciling the data with student eligibility, an institution must determine whether:
 - A) The amount of the claim applied to a student's tuition and mandatory fee charges exceeded the amount that the student was eligible to receive for any reason, including as a result of billing errors or retroactive withdrawals; or

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- B) The amount of the claim applied to a student's tuition and mandatory fee charges was less than the amount that the student was eligible to receive for any reason, including as a result of billing errors or retroactive withdrawals; or
 - C) The amount of the claim applied to a student's tuition and mandatory fee charges equaled the amount that the student was eligible to receive.
- 3) Any institution that determines that the amount of a claim applied to a student's tuition and mandatory fee charges either exceeded the amount that the student was eligible to receive, or was less than that amount, must submit an accounting of all such adjustments to ISAC within 30 days following the end of the applicable term.
 - 4) For any claims determined to exceed the amount that the student was eligible to receive, the amount in excess paid for the claims shall be remitted to ISAC within 45 days after the end of the applicable term unless the payment is received after the end of the applicable term. If the payment of claims is made after the end of the applicable term, the institution shall have 60 days following receipt of the payment to complete reconciliation and remit any funds due to ISAC.
 - 5) Award payments made in the name of one recipient cannot be applied to another recipient at the same institution. A refund of the payment made must be submitted to ISAC, and a supplemental request for payment must be processed for the proper recipient.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES

- 1) Heading of the Part: Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2750
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
2750.10	New Section
2750.15	New Section
2750.20	New Section
2750.30	New Section
2750.40	New Section
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing and authorized by Section 65.120 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/65.120].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: Rules are being established for this new program created by P.A. 103-0519.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES

- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217-782-5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Rules begins on the next page:

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION

CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2750

ILLINOIS GRADUATE AND RETAIN OUR WORKFORCE (iGROW) TECH
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section

2750.10	Summary and Purpose
2750.15	Definitions
2750.20	Applicant Eligibility
2750.30	Program Procedures
2750.40	Institutional Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 65.120 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/65.120].

SOURCE: Adopted at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2750.10 Summary and Purpose

- a) The Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship Program was established *to recruit and retain individuals to work in technology jobs that have a high demand and offer high wages for new employees* [110 ILCS 947.65/120] by providing scholarship assistance to Illinois students pursuing those careers. Awards are limited based on funding levels appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly.
- b) This Part establishes rules that govern the Program. Additional rules and definitions are contained in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2700 (General Provisions).

Section 2750.15 Definitions

"Qualifying Degree" – *an associate or bachelor's degree granted by a qualified institution in the field of computer information sciences; information technology; information science; computer science; computer systems networking and telecommunications; computer and information systems security or information assurance, including cybersecurity; or management information systems.*

"Qualifying Job" – *a job with an employer in this State performing work that is*

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directly related to the field of study that qualified the candidate for assistance under this program [110 ILCS 947/65.120].

Section 2750.20 Applicant Eligibility

A qualified applicant shall:

- a) be a resident of Illinois;
- b) *have graduated from high school or have received a State of Illinois High School Diploma and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale while in high school;*
- c) *pursue or intend to pursue a qualifying degree;*
- d) *be enrolled at an ISAC-approved institution of higher learning, on at least a half-time basis, in a course of study necessary to secure a qualifying degree [110 ILCS 947/65.120]; and*
- e) maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by the institution.

Section 2750.30 Program Procedures

- a) An application must be submitted annually and, in order to receive priority consideration for an award, must be completed and received by a date established each year by the Commission and posted on the ISAC website, preceding the academic year for which the scholarship is being requested. No applications will be considered for processing if received after the published date unless funds remain available for disbursement.
 - 1) Applications are available on ISAC's website.
 - 2) If the application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant, who will have an opportunity to furnish the missing information. The application will only be considered for processing as of the date the application is complete and received at ISAC's Deerfield office.
- b) Scholarship assistance is limited to the full-time enrollment equivalent of 8 semesters or 12 quarters of payment for undergraduate study.
- c) Award funds shall be applicable only *up to and including the full costs of tuition*

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and fees, and room and board in the amount of the standard housing and food allowance used for all undergraduate students, at a public institution [110 ILCS 947.65/120. For recipients at private institutions, the award may not exceed the maximum amount payable to a student enrolled in the most expensive comparable program of study at a public institution.

- d) Awards are payable only for two semesters or three quarters in an academic year.
- e) ISAC shall select the recipients from among those who have submitted complete applications and have supplied required information, including qualified and timely new and renewal applicants.
- f) Awarding priority shall be given to applicants who demonstrate financial need, applicants who demonstrate academic excellence, minority applicants, and renewal applicants who continue to meet the eligibility requirements.
- g) The total number of awards in a given fiscal year is contingent upon available funding. If funding is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants, awarding will be based on the date the completed application is received in ISAC's Deerfield office.
- h) Each qualified applicant who is selected to receive a scholarship shall be notified by ISAC. Applicants not receiving the scholarship will be notified as well.
- i) *The total amount of funds awarded to a qualified recipient in a given academic year, when added to other financial aid available to the qualified recipient for that year, shall not exceed the cost of attendance. If the amount of financial aid to be awarded to a qualified student exceeds the institution's cost of attendance, the iGROW Tech Scholarship shall be reduced by the amount by which the cost of attendance is exceeded [110 ILCS 947.65/120].*
- j) ISAC pays scholarship funds directly to the institution of record in the name of the recipient.
- k) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance under this Part, the qualified applicant must sign an Agreement/Promissory Note that is submitted to ISAC. The Agreement/Promissory Note shall include the following stipulations:
 - 1) *for each year of scholarship assistance received, the recipient pledges to work in Illinois in a qualifying job for a period of not less than one year, but in no event for a period of less than two years [110 ILCS 947.65/120].*

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- 2) the recipient shall begin working within one year after completion of the program for which the recipient received assistance under this Part, and shall work on a continuous basis for the required period of time.
 - 3) if the work requirement is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the scholarship prorated according to the fraction of the employment obligation not completed, plus interest at a rate equal to 5%, and if applicable, reasonable collection fees.
 - 4) The recipient agrees to provide ISAC with evidence of compliance with program requirements (e.g., responses to annual follow-up questionnaires, etc.)
- l) *A recipient of a scholarship awarded under this Part will not be in violation of the agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (k) during the periods in which the recipient:*
- 1) *enrolls at a qualified institution on a full-time basis as a graduate student in a course of study related to the technology degree for which the recipient qualified for the scholarship;*
 - 2) *serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;*
 - 3) *is temporarily totally disabled, for not more than three years, as established by a sworn affidavit of a licensed physician;*
 - 4) *is actively seeking but unable to find full-time employment with a State employer that satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (k)(1) and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or*
 - 5) *becomes totally and permanently disabled as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician [110 ILCS 947/65.120].*
- m) *Scholarship recipients who withdraw from a program of computer science or other related major area of study (see Qualifying Degree), but remain enrolled in a qualified institution to continue their postsecondary studies in another academic discipline, shall not be required to commence repayment so long as they remain enrolled on a full-time basis or if special circumstances that warrant extension of*

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repayment can be documented [110 ILCS 947.65/120].

Section 2750.40 Institutional Procedures

- a) Institutions shall submit payment requests to ISAC, and shall request payment for tuition and fees only up to the amount of actual tuition and fee expenses incurred.
- b) Upon receipt of scholarship funds, the institution shall verify the recipient's enrollment status for the term for which the award was intended.
- c) *Upon receipt of the scholarship funds, if the recipient has withdrawn from enrollment for the terms for which the award was intended, the recipient may receive payment for tuition and fees incurred up to the term award. The room and board allowance shall be prorated based on the institution's return of funds policy. The institution shall return the appropriate amount of the payment to ISAC [110 ILCS 947.65/120].*
- d) To provide sufficient time for processing and vouchering through the State Comptroller's Office, all payment requests must be received by ISAC no later than July 1.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 1) Heading of the Part: Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2752
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
2752.15	Amendment
2752.20	Amendment
2752.30	Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing the Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program Act [110 ILCS 997] and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f)].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to make program clarifications from P.A. 103-0031.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217-782-5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendments begins on the next page:

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2752
HUMAN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Section	
2752.10	Summary and Purpose
2752.15	Definitions
2752.20	Applicant Eligibility
2752.30	Program Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing the Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program Act [110 ILCS 997] and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f)].

SOURCE: Adopted at 47 Ill. Reg. 2461, effective February 6, 2023, amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2752.15 Definitions

“Professional” means an individual employed by a human services agency that contracts with, receives funding from or is grant-funded by a State agency for the purposes of providing direct or indirect services that ensure that individuals have the essential elements to build and maintain physical, emotional, and economic well-being at every phase of life.

“Qualified program” means a program that offers an associate, bachelor’s, or master’s degree from an accredited college or university.

“State agency” means the Department of Human Services, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department on Aging and the Department of Public Health. [110 ILCS 997/10]

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2752.20 Applicant Eligibility

A qualified applicant shall be:

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- a) a resident of Illinois;
- b) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan;
- c) an individual who is not in default on ~~an federally guaranteed~~ educational loan and does not owe a refund on a grant or scholarship program administered by ISAC;
- d) an individual who *has ~~been a full-time employee~~ worked for at least 24 consecutive months ~~as a full-time employee~~ as a human services professional and ~~thein a~~ community-based human services agency ~~that~~ currently has or did have a contract with, receives funding from or is grant-funded by a State agency for the purpose of ~~providing~~ human services during the ~~duration of the~~ applicant's 24 consecutive month tenure; and*
- e) an individual who *remains a full-time employee as a human services professional in the same community-based human services agency for at least 12 months after receiving this grant.* [110 ILCS 997/30]

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2752.30 Program Procedures

- a) Eligible educational loans include:
 - 1) Stafford Loans;
 - 2) Perkins Loans;
 - 3) Graduate PLUS Loans;
 - 4) consolidation loans;
 - 5) Supplemental Loans for Students;
 - 6) alternative loans; and
 - 7) other types of government and institutional loans used for education expenses.

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- b) Non-eligible loans include:
 - 1) credit card payments;
 - 2) Parent PLUS Loans;
 - 3) loans that have been paid in full;
 - 4) loans from lending institutions that are not governed by State or federal regulations or loans from individuals or family members;
 - 5) any portion of a consolidated loan that cannot be directly attributed to the applicant; and
 - 6) non-education loans, such as home equity loans.
- c) All applicants annually must complete an ISAC application for the loan repayment program.
 - 1) Applications are available on ISAC's website.
 - 2) If the application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant, who will have an opportunity to furnish the missing information. The application will only be considered for processing as of the date the application, including all required documentation, is complete and received by ISAC. No applications will be considered for processing if received after the published date unless funds remain available for disbursement. ISAC reserves the right to request documentation to verify the data reported on the application.
- d) ~~Grant assistance under this program may be received for up to 4 years.~~
- e) ISAC shall select the recipients from among those who have submitted complete applications, including qualified and timely new and renewal applicants ~~who~~ ~~and those who filed timely renewal applications and~~ have supplied information required in subsection (c). Awarding preference may be granted to renewal applicants and to applicants based on need or income levels.
- f) The total number of grants awarded in a given fiscal year and the amount of each

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award as limited by subsection (g) is contingent upon available funding. If funding is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants, awarding will be determined in the following order:

- 1) renewal applicants, in the order in which they were received; then
- 2) qualified timely new applicants; then
- 3) qualified untimely new applicants.

fg) The amount repaid by ISAC to the grantee shall be no more than the borrower's remaining balance on all eligible educational loans and shall not exceed:

- 1) \$25,000 per year for a master's degree or higher from a qualified program;
- 2) \$15,000 per year for a bachelor's degree from a qualified program;
- 3) \$3,000 per year for an associate degree from a qualified program; and
- 4) \$5,000 per year add-on if applicant is independently licensed as a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed clinical professional counselor, a licensed practitioner of the healing arts, a licensed marriage and family therapist, a board-certified behavior analyst, or a registered behavior technician.

gh) Proceeds will be remitted directly to the holder of the loan(s) to be repaid when the beneficiary designates ISAC as the disbursing agent for this purpose.

hi) The recipient and loan holder shall submit information for eligible educational loans in sufficient time for ISAC to make payments for each year in which the funds are awarded.

ij) If the recipient's loan holder receives an overpayment, the loan holder shall return the amount of the overage to ISAC. A supplemental request must be made by the recipient and processed by ISAC for any funds to be paid to another holder.

jk) When multiple loans are held by a single lending institution, the loan holder shall distribute the payment to one loan until paid in full.

kl) When possible, all loans held at a single lending institution shall be paid in full

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

before monies are distributed to another loan holder.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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- 1) Heading of the Part: Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2763
- 3) Section Number: 2763.30 Proposed Action: Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Section 50 and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/50 and 20(f)].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to incorporate updates to repayment procedures following the approval of legislation (P.A. 103-0448).
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217.782.5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendment begins on the next page:

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2763
MINORITY TEACHERS OF ILLINOIS (MTI) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section	
2763.10	Summary and Purpose
2763.20	Applicant Eligibility
2763.30	Program Procedures
2763.40	Institutional Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing Section 50 and authorized by Section 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/50 and 20(f)].

SOURCE: Emergency rules adopted at 15 Ill. Reg. 15621, effective October 11, 1991, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired on March 9, 1992; adopted at 16 Ill. Reg. 7048, effective April 21, 1992; emergency amendments adopted at 16 Ill. Reg. 16326, effective September 28, 1992, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired on February 25, 1993; emergency amendment at 17 Ill. Reg. 175, effective January 1, 1993, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired on May 30, 1993; amended at 17 Ill. Reg. 10585, effective July 1, 1993; amended at 18 Ill. Reg. 10325, effective July 1, 1994; amended at 19 Ill. Reg. 8361, effective July 1, 1995; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 9221, effective July 1, 1996; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 9221, effective July 1, 1996; old Part repealed, new Part adopted at 21 Ill. Reg. 11174, effective July 18, 1997; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 11141, effective July 1, 1998; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 9181, effective July 1, 2000; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 10385, effective July 1, 2003; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 9155, effective July 1, 2004; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 9934, effective July 1, 2005; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 11678, effective July 1, 2006; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 9544, effective July 1, 2013; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 8454, effective July 1, 2015; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13641, effective July 1, 2018; amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 15044, effective January 1, 2020; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 8480, effective July 1, 2021; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 15332, effective January 1, 2022; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. 9463, effective July 1, 2023; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2763.30 Program Procedures

- a) An application for an MTI scholarship must be submitted annually and an applicant must also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid® (FAFSA). An ISAC application for the MTI Scholarship Program and a FAFSA must be completed and received by March 31st immediately preceding the regular school

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year for which the scholarship is being requested, in order to receive priority consideration for an award.

- 1) An application is available on ISAC's website.
 - 2) If the MTI application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant. The applicant will then have an opportunity to furnish the missing information; however, the application will only be considered for processing as of the date when the application is complete and received by ISAC.
- b) When an appropriation for the MTI Scholarship Program for a given fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all qualified students, ISAC will allocate the available scholarship funds for that fiscal year to qualified students who submit a complete timely application, as specified in subsection (a) based on the following order of priority:
- 1) Funds will first be awarded to students who received the MTI scholarship in the prior academic year and who remain eligible for the MTI scholarship.
 - 2) If funds remain after the awarding of scholarships under subsection (b)(1), at least 35 percent of the funds appropriated for scholarships awarded under this Section in each fiscal year shall be reserved for male qualified applicants. *If ISAC does not receive enough applications from qualified male minorities on or before January 1 of each fiscal year to award 35% of the funds appropriated for these scholarships to qualified male minority applicants, then ISAC may award a portion of the reserved funds to qualified female minority applicants.*
 - 3) *When at least \$2,850,000, but less than \$4,200,000 is appropriated in a given fiscal year for MTI scholarships, then to the extent allowed by the amount of funding that remains, at least 10% of the funds appropriated shall be reserved for qualified bilingual minority applicants, with priority being given to qualified bilingual minority applicants who are enrolled in an educator preparation program with a concentration in bilingual, bicultural education.*
 - 4) *When at least \$4,200,000 is appropriated in a given fiscal year for MTI scholarships, then to the extent allowed by the amount of funding that remains, at least 30% of the funds appropriated shall be reserved for qualified bilingual minority applicants, with priority being given to*

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qualified bilingual minority applicants who are enrolled in an educator preparation program with a concentration in bilingual, bicultural education. [110 ILCS 947/50]

- 5) To the extent allowed by the amount of funding that remains after awarding to those applicants in the priority categories in subsections (b)(1) through (4), ISAC may award the remaining funds to other qualified applicants.
- c) When an appropriation for the MTI scholarship in any given fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all qualified applicants within any of the categories in subsection (b), ISAC shall prioritize awards within that category in the following order:
 - 1) to students that demonstrate the most financial need;
 - 2) to students with the earliest date of received completed applications; and
 - 3) to qualified applicants enrolled at or above the junior level.
- d) No recipient may receive more than 8 semesters/12 quarters of scholarship assistance under this program.
- e) Scholarship funds are applicable towards up to two semesters/three quarters of study within a regular school year.
- f) Qualified applicants may be required to furnish the postsecondary institution at which they are enrolled with a copy of their high school transcripts, any other documentation verifying high school graduation, or a copy of their State of Illinois High School Diploma.
- g) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance under this Part, the qualified applicant must sign a Teaching Agreement/Promissory Note that is submitted to ISAC. The Teaching Agreement/Promissory Note shall include the following stipulations:
 - 1) the recipient pledges to teach, on a full-time equivalent basis, for one year for each year of scholarship aid received, or for any portion of a year for which aid was received, under this Part;
 - 2) the recipient shall begin teaching within one year following the completion of the program for which the recipient received assistance under this Part,

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and shall teach on a continuous basis for the required period of time;

- 3) the teaching requirement will be fulfilled at a nonprofit Illinois public, private or parochial preschool, elementary school or secondary school at which no less than 30 percent of the enrolled students are minority students, as certified by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). If a recipient received an MTI scholarship as a qualified bilingual minority applicant, the recipient may instead fulfill the teaching obligation in a transitional bilingual education program (as defined by Article 14 C of the School Code) or in a school in which at least 20 English learner students in the same language classification are enrolled;
 - 4) if the teaching requirement is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the scholarships prorated according to the fraction of the teaching obligation not completed, plus interest at a rate of interest equal to five percent and, if applicable, reasonable collection fees;
 - 5) the recipient agrees to provide ISAC with evidence of compliance with program requirements (e.g., responses to annual follow-up questionnaires, etc.); and
 - 6) the recipient promises to use the proceeds of the scholarship for educational expenses.
- h) A recipient of a scholarship awarded under this Part shall not be in violation of the agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (g~~h~~) during periods in which the recipient:
- 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;
 - 2) is enrolled on a full-time basis as a graduate student in a course of study related to the field of teaching at an institution of higher learning;
 - 3) is temporarily totally disabled, for not more than three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a licensed physician;
 - 4) is actively seeking but unable to find full-time employment as a teacher at a school that satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (g)(3) for one

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continuous period not to exceed two years, and is able to provide evidence of that fact;

- 5) is taking additional courses, on at least a half-time basis, needed to obtain licensure as a teacher in Illinois; or
 - 6) is fulfilling teaching requirements associated with other programs administered by ISAC if the recipient cannot concurrently fulfill them in a period of time equal to the length of the teaching obligation.
- i) If a recipient is required to repay any portion of the scholarship, the repayment period shall be completed within 10 years after the scholarship converts to a loan. This 10 year period may be extended if the recipient:
- 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;
 - 2) is temporarily disabled, for not more than three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a licensed physician;
 - 3) is seeking and unable to find full-time employment, for one continuous period not to exceed two years, and is able to provide evidence of that fact;
 - 4) withdraws from a course of study leading to licensure as a teacher but is enrolled full-time in another academic discipline; or
 - 5) is pursuing a graduate course of study and is enrolled on a full-time basis for one continuous period of time not to exceed three years.
- j) During the time a recipient qualifies for any of the extensions listed in subsection (i), the recipient shall not be required to make payments and interest shall not accrue.
- k) A recipient shall enter repayment status on the earliest of the following dates:
- 1) the first day of the first calendar month after the recipient has ceased to pursue a course of study leading to licensure as a teacher at the preschool, elementary or secondary level, but not before six months have elapsed after the cessation of at least half-time enrollment in such a course of study;

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- 2) the date the recipient informs ISAC that the recipient does not plan to fulfill the teaching obligation; or
- 3) the day after the latest date upon which the recipient must have begun teaching after completing the postsecondary education for which the scholarship was awarded.

l) *If a recipient who enters into repayment under subsection (g) subsequently, within 5 years of entering repayment, begins to teach at a school meeting the description under subsection (g) of this Section, the amount owed by the recipient may be reduced in proportion to the amount of the teaching obligation completed. [110 ILCS 947/50]*

m) A recipient shall not be required to repay the amount of the scholarships received if the recipient becomes permanently totally disabled as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician (see, e.g., 34 CFR 682.402(c)), or if the recipient's representative provides ISAC with a death certificate or other evidence that the recipient has died.

nn) *If the MTI Program does not expend at least 90% of the appropriated amount in a given fiscal year for three consecutive years and ISAC does not receive enough applications by January 1 each year from the groups identified for reserved funds, then up to 3% of appropriated funds for the next three fiscal years shall be allocated to increase awareness of the program and for the recruitment of Black males. ISAC will make a recommendation to the General Assembly by January 1 of the following fiscal year regarding whether the amount allocated to increasing awareness and recruitment should continue beyond the three-year period. [110 ILCS 947/50]*

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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- 1) Heading of the Part: Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2764
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
2764.20	Amendment
2764.30	Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Section 52 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/52] and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 52(h) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f) and 52(h)].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to incorporate updates to repayment procedures following the approval of legislation (P.A. 103-0448) and to update a term.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217.782.5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendments begins on the next page:

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2764
GOLDEN APPLE SCHOLARS OF ILLINOIS PROGRAM

Section	
2764.10	Summary and Purpose
2764.20	Applicant Eligibility
2764.30	Program Procedures
2764.40	Institutional Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing Section 52 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/52] and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 52(h) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f) and 52(h)].

SOURCE: Emergency rules adopted at 19 Ill. Reg. 976, effective February 1, 1995, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired on June 30, 1995; adopted at 19 Ill. Reg. 11367, effective August 1, 1995; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 9141, effective July 1, 1996; old Part repealed at 21 Ill. Reg. 11027 and new Part adopted at 21 Ill. Reg. 11029, effective July 18, 1997; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 11043, effective July 1, 1998; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 9095, effective July 1, 2000; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 10395, effective July 1, 2003; emergency amendment at 27 Ill. Reg. 14860, effective September 10, 2003, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 1749, effective January 25, 2004; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 9162, effective July 1, 2004; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 11687, effective July 1, 2006; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 10333, effective July 1, 2008; amended at 33 Ill. Reg. 9784, effective July 1, 2009; amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 13957, effective September 1, 2012; emergency amendment at 37 Ill. Reg. 15446, effective September 3, 2013, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 38 Ill. Reg. 2898, effective January 15, 2014; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 8462, effective July 1, 2015; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13649, effective July 1, 2018; amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 11050, effective July 1, 2020; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 8489, effective July 1, 2021; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2764.20 Applicant Eligibility

- a) All qualified applicants must be designated as a Golden Apple Scholar by the Golden Apple Foundation for Excellence in Teaching (the Foundation).
- b) A qualified applicant, at the time of designation as a Golden Apple Scholar by the Golden Apple Foundation for Excellence in Teaching, shall:

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- 1) be a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
 - 2) be a resident of Illinois;
 - 3) be a high school graduate or a person who has received a State of Illinois High School Diploma; ~~high-school-equivalency certificate~~;
 - 4) be enrolled at a four-year institution designated by the Foundation as a participating Illinois college or university; and
 - 5) have entered into a program agreement and promissory note with the Foundation and ISAC, as described in this Part.
- c) In order to receive scholarship assistance under this Part, a qualified applicant shall:
- 1) be enrolled in a postsecondary course of study leading to initial teacher licensure or taking additional courses needed to gain Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) approval to teach, including alternative teacher licensure [110 ILCS 947/52];
 - 2) have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale if enrolled at the sophomore, junior or senior level; and
 - 3) have participated in all required programs and adhered to the residential guidelines and standards of conduct as a designated Golden Apple Scholar of the Foundation.
- d) In any academic year in which the qualified applicant accepts or receives financial assistance through the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2762), the Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2763), the Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2765), or the Teach Illinois Scholarship (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2768), the qualified applicant shall not be eligible for scholarship assistance under this Part.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2764.30 Program Procedures

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- a) Qualified applicants shall have completed and filed an application for program participation with the Foundation prior to becoming eligible for scholarship assistance under this Section. Applications shall be made available to qualified applicants by and submitted to the Foundation before a qualified applicant may be designated as a Golden Apple Scholar by the Foundation.
- b) The Foundation shall designate Golden Apple Scholars as defined in their established selection protocol.
- c) Each year, the Foundation shall identify Golden Apple Scholars eligible to receive scholarship assistance from ISAC under this Part by submitting to ISAC any necessary data related to the qualified applicant and, at such time, by certifying that:
 - 1) Students selected to receive scholarship assistance under this Part meet the eligibility requirements described in Section 2764.20(a) or in the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/52];
 - 2) Students selected to receive scholarship assistance under this Part have entered into a Program Agreement and Promissory Note with the Foundation that satisfies the requirements listed in this Part; and
 - 3) Thirty percent of students selected to receive scholarship assistance under this Part in a given fiscal year will be awarded to students residing in counties having a population of fewer than 500,000.
- d) In order to receive scholarship assistance under this Part, a Golden Apple Scholar must have signed a program agreement and promissory note with the Foundation on behalf of ISAC that includes the following stipulations:
 - 1) the recipient pledges to teach, on a full time basis, for a period of not less than five years and in accordance with any additional commitment to teach in a teacher shortage discipline, which shall include early childhood education;
 - 2) the recipient shall begin teaching within two years following completion of the postsecondary education degree or certificate program for which the scholarship was awarded, and shall teach on a continuous basis for the required period of time;

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- 3) the teaching requirement will be fulfilled at a nonprofit Illinois public, private or parochial preschool, or an Illinois public elementary or secondary school that qualifies for teacher loan cancellation under section 465(a)(2)(A) of the HEA (20 USC 1087ee(a)(2)(A));
 - 4) if the teaching requirement is not fulfilled, the scholarship assistance provided under this Part converts to a loan and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the scholarship prorated according to the fraction of the teaching obligation not completed, plus interest at a rate equal to five percent and, if applicable, reasonable collection fees;
 - 5) the recipient agrees to provide the Foundation or ISAC with evidence of compliance with program requirements (e.g., responses to annual follow-up questionnaires, etc.); and
 - 6) the recipient promises to use the proceeds of the scholarship for educational expenses.
- e) All amounts collected on a scholarship that converts to a loan under this Part, less any portion of those funds that equals the amount in expenses that ISAC has incurred in collecting the debt, shall be remitted to the Comptroller for deposit in the General Revenue Fund.
- f) A recipient of a scholarship awarded under this Part shall not be in violation of the program agreement and promissory note for failing to begin teaching within two years after graduation if, during that period, the recipient:
- 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces; or
 - 2) is enrolled full-time in a graduate course of study related to the field of teaching at an institution of higher learning; or
 - 3) is temporarily totally disabled, for not more than three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician; or
 - 4) is actively seeking and unable to find full-time employment as a teacher at a school that satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (d)(3) for one continuous period not to exceed two years, and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or

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- 5) is taking additional courses, on at least a half-time basis, needed to obtain licensure as a teacher in Illinois; or
 - 6) is fulfilling teaching requirements associated with other programs administered by ISAC if the requirements cannot be concurrently fulfilled in a period of time equal to the length of the teaching commitment; or
 - 7) is participating in a program established by Executive Order 10924 of the President of the United States or the National Community Service Act of 1990 (42 USC 12501 et seq., as amended).
- g) If a recipient is required to repay any portion of the scholarship, the repayment period shall be completed within 10 years. The Commission shall grant a period of forbearance or deferment during repayment of the loan that shall not be counted toward the 10-year repayment period, if the recipient:
- 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces; or
 - 2) is temporarily disabled, for not more than three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a licensed physician; or
 - 3) is pursuing a graduate course of study and is enrolled on a full-time basis for one continuous period of time not to exceed three years; or
 - 4) is seeking and unable to find full-time employment for one continuous period not to exceed two years and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or
 - 5) withdraws from a course of study leading to licensure/approval in a teacher shortage discipline, but is enrolled at least half-time as an undergraduate for one continuous period of time not to exceed three years.
- h) During the time a recipient qualifies for periods of deferment or forbearance described in subsection (g), payments shall not be required and interest shall not accrue.
- i) A recipient shall enter repayment status on the earliest of the following dates:

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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- 1) the first day of the first calendar month after the recipient has ceased to pursue a course of study leading to licensure as a teacher, but not until six months have elapsed after the cessation of at least half-time enrollment in such a course of study;
- 2) the date the Foundation informs ISAC or ISAC otherwise learns that a recipient of scholarship assistance has not fulfilled the teaching obligation; or
- 3) the day after the latest date upon which the recipient must have begun teaching after completing the postsecondary education for which the scholarship was awarded.

j) *If a recipient who enters into repayment under subsection (d) subsequently, within 5 years of entering repayment, begins to teach at a school meeting the description under subsection (d) of this Section, the amount owed by the recipient may be reduced in proportion to the amount of the teaching obligation completed. [110 ILCS 947/50]*

kj) A recipient shall not be required to repay the amount of the scholarship received if the recipient becomes permanently and totally disabled, so as to be unable to perform the essential function of a teacher with or without accommodation as determined by a licensed physician, or if a recipient's representative provides ISAC with a death certificate or other evidence that the recipient has died.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- 1) Heading of the Part: Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2765
- 3) Section Number: 2765.30 Proposed Action: Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Section 65.15 and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 65.15(a)(2) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f) and 65.15].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to incorporate updates to repayment procedures following the approval of legislation (P.A. 103-0448) and make other minor revisions.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217.782.5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendment begins on the next page:

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2765

ILLINOIS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER TUITION WAIVER (SETTW) PROGRAM

Section

2765.10	Summary and Purpose
2765.20	Applicant Eligibility
2765.30	Program Procedures
2765.40	Institutional Procedures

AUTHORITY: Implementing Section 65.15 and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 65.15(a)(2) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/20(f) and 65.15].

SOURCE: Adopted at 19 Ill. Reg. 8354, effective July 1, 1995; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 9194, effective July 1, 1996; old Part repealed and new Part adopted at 21 Ill. Reg. 11129, effective July 18, 1997; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 11107, effective July 1, 1998; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 9159, effective July 1, 2000; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 10037, effective July 1, 2002; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 10405, effective July 1, 2003; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 9170, effective July 1, 2004; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 9941, effective July 1, 2005; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 11697, effective July 1, 2006; amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 12388, effective July 15, 2011; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 9550, effective July 1, 2013; amended at 38 Ill. Reg. 13402, effective July 1, 2014; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 8134, effective July 1, 2017; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13657, effective July 1, 2018; amended at 46 Ill. Reg. 12094, effective July 1, 2022; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2765.30 Program Procedures

- a) A completed ISAC application for the Illinois SETTW Program must be postmarked on or before March 1 immediately preceding the academic year for which the tuition waiver is being requested in order to receive priority consideration for an award.
- b) An application for the Illinois SETTW Program is available on ISAC's website.
- c) If the student section of an application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant. The applicant will then have an opportunity to furnish the missing information;

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however, the application will be considered for processing as of the date when the student section is complete and received by ISAC.

d) ISAC shall annually award 250 Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waivers as provided in this subsection (de).

1) Currently Licensed Teachers

A) A maximum of 40 tuition waivers may be awarded annually to qualified applicants who hold a valid teaching license that is not in the discipline of Special Education.

B) If more than 40 applicants qualify under these provisions, a lottery shall be used to select 40 recipients.

2) Applicants Graduating from High School in the Current Award Year

A) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (de)(4), a minimum of 105 tuition waivers shall be awarded annually to students scheduled to graduate from an approved high school in the academic year in which the award is made and who rank in the upper half of their class at the end of the sixth semester.

B) ISAC shall select recipients under this subsection (de)(2) from among qualified applicants based on the highest ACT or SAT scores from the time periods set forth in the State Scholar Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2760.20(b), (c) and (d), as converted according to the Illinois Standard Test Score table (Section 2760.30(c)).

C) If the number of qualified applicants sharing the same Illinois Standard Test Score exceeds the number of tuition waivers to be awarded, a lottery shall be used to select the awardees.

3) Applicants Not Graduating from High School in the Current Award Year

A) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (de)(4), a minimum of 105 tuition waivers shall be awarded annually to qualified applicants who have graduated from an approved high school prior to the academic year in which the award is made.

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- B) If the number of qualified applicants exceeds the number of tuition waivers to be awarded, a lottery shall be used to select the awardees.
- 4) Rollover of Unused Tuition Waivers
 - A) Any of the available tuition waivers not awarded under subsection ~~(d)~~(1) shall be added to the pool of available waivers under subsection ~~(d)~~(2).
 - B) If the number of qualified applicants under subsection ~~(d)~~(2) or ~~(d)~~(3) is insufficient to utilize all of the waivers available under those subsections, the remainder shall be transferred to the pool of waivers under the other subsection if the other subsection has qualified applicants who have not yet been awarded a waiver.
- e) Notice of eligibility will be sent by July 1 to each qualified applicant who is selected to receive a tuition waiver. The qualified applicant is then responsible for providing a copy of the notice of eligibility to the institution. All other qualified applicants will be notified that they were not selected.
- f) Tuition waivers are applicable towards credit for any semester/quarter within an academic year.
- g) A recipient shall be exempt from paying tuition and mandatory fees for up to four calendar years.
- h) A recipient may be granted a leave of absence by the president of the institution, or the president's designee, for the following reasons:
 - 1) earning funds to defray the recipient's educational expenses;
 - 2) illness of the recipient or a member of the recipient's immediate family, as established by the sworn statement of a licensed physician; or
 - 3) military service.
- i) A recipient must complete the course of study within six years including leaves of absence. A recipient must remain enrolled on a continuous basis during the regular school year for four years, unless granted a leave of absence. However, a leave of

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absence granted for military service shall not be considered part of the six years within which a recipient must complete a degree.

- j) Prior to receiving assistance, the qualified applicant must sign a Teaching Agreement/Promissory Note, which must be submitted to ISAC. The Teaching Agreement/Promissory Note shall include the following stipulations:
- 1) the recipient pledges to begin teaching on a full-time basis, in the field of Special Education, within one year following graduation from or termination of enrollment in a teacher education program, at a nonprofit, public, private or parochial preschool, elementary or secondary school in Illinois and to continue teaching for at least 2 of the 5 years immediately following;
 - 2) if the teaching requirement is not fulfilled, the tuition waiver converts to a loan and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the tuition waiver (prorated according to the fraction of the teaching obligation not completed), plus interest at a rate equal to 5% per annum; and
 - 3) the recipient agrees to provide ISAC with evidence of compliance with program requirements (e.g., responses to annual follow-up questionnaires, etc.).
- k) The five-year time period during which the teaching requirement must be fulfilled may be extended if the recipient:
- 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;
 - 2) is enrolled full-time in an academic program related to the field of teaching, leading to a graduate or postgraduate degree;
 - 3) is temporarily totally disabled for a period of time not to exceed three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician;
 - 4) is actively seeking but unable to find full-time employment as a teacher at an Illinois public, private, or parochial school for one continuous period not to exceed two years, and is able to provide evidence of that fact;
 - 5) is taking additional courses, on at least a half-time basis, needed to obtain

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licensure as a teacher in Illinois; or

- 6) is fulfilling teaching requirements associated with other programs administered by ISAC if the recipient cannot concurrently fulfill them in a period of time equal to the length of the teaching obligation.
- l) A recipient shall enter repayment status on the earliest of the following dates:
 - 1) the first day of the first calendar month after the recipient has ceased to pursue a course of study leading to initial licensure as a teacher in Special Education, but not until six months have elapsed after the cessation of at least half-time enrollment in such a course of study. A recipient who has transferred and is waiting to be accepted into the Special Education program at the new university shall not be subject to this provision provided the recipient is enrolled and is pursuing course work that meets the new university's requirements to gain admission to the Special Education program;
 - 2) the date the recipient informs ISAC that the recipient does not plan to fulfill the teaching obligation; or
 - 3) the latest date upon which the recipient must have begun teaching in order to complete the teaching obligation within five years after completing the postsecondary education for which the waiver was awarded.
 - m) If a recipient is required to repay any portion of a tuition waiver awarded prior to July 1, 2014, the repayment period shall be completed within five years after the tuition waiver converts to a loan. If a recipient is required to repay any portion of a tuition waiver awarded after July 1, 2014, the repayment period shall be completed within 10 years after the tuition waiver converts to a loan. Repayment periods may be extended if a recipient:
 - 1) serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;
 - 2) is temporarily disabled, for not more than three years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a licensed physician;
 - 3) is pursuing a graduate or postgraduate degree and is enrolled on a full-time basis for one continuous period of time not to exceed three years;

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- 4) is seeking and unable to find full-time employment for one continuous period not to exceed two years and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or
 - 5) withdraws from a course of study leading to teacher licensure in Special Education but remains enrolled on at least a half-time basis in another academic discipline.
- n) During the time a recipient qualifies for any of the extensions listed in subsection (~~m~~) of this Section, the recipient shall not be required to make payments and interest shall not continue to accrue.
- o) *If a recipient who enters into repayment under subsection (j) subsequently, within 5 years of entering repayment, begins to teach at a school meeting the description under subsection (j) of this Section, the amount owed by the recipient may be reduced in proportion to the amount of the teaching obligation completed. [110 ILCS 947/50]*
- pe) A recipient shall not be required to pay the amount of the tuition and fees waived if the recipient becomes permanently totally disabled, as established by the sworn affidavit of a licensed physician (see e.g., 34 CFR 682.402(c)), or if the recipient's representative provides ISAC with a death certificate or other evidence that the recipient has died.
- qp) A holder of a tuition waiver must register for enrollment in a special education program of teacher education within ten days after the beginning of the term for which the tuition waiver was initially awarded. If the recipient fails to comply with this requirement, the tuition waiver will be forfeited and ISAC will award it to another qualified applicant.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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- 1) Heading of the Part: AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2766
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
2766.10	Amendment
2766.15	Amendment
2766.40	Amendment
2766.50	Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing and authorized by Section 65.100 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/65.100].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: This Part is being revised to integrate program changes resulting from P.A. 103-0516.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a state mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

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- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this notice to:

Jackie Eckley
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
500 West Monroe, 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62704

217-782-5161
jackie.eckley@illinois.gov

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: None
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2023

The full text of the Proposed Amendments begins on the next page:

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TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2766
AIM HIGH GRANT ~~PILOT~~ PROGRAM

Section	
2766.10	Summary and Purpose
2766.15	Definitions
2766.20	Institutional Applicant Eligibility
2766.30	Program Procedures
2766.40	Institutional Procedures
2766.50	Student Applicant and Recipient Eligibility

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 65.100 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/65.100].

SOURCE: Former Part 2766 repealed at 31 Ill. Reg. 9523, effective July 1, 2007; new Part 2766 adopted by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. 17265, effective September 13, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days; new Part adopted at 43 Ill. Reg. 2263, effective February 1, 2019; amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 15048, effective January 1, 2020; amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 11059, effective July 1, 2020; amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 20188, effective January 1, 2021; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 8494, effective July 1, 2021, amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 2766.10 Summary and Purpose

- a) In an effort to increase enrollment of Illinois residents at Illinois public universities, increase overall retention of Illinois college students in Illinois, and encourage Illinois residents to attain a college degree, State appropriated funds are to be used to enable Illinois public universities to establish a merit-based, means-tested award program known as the Aspirational Institutional Match Helping Illinois Grow Higher Education Grant ~~Pilot~~ Program (AIM HIGH) to make college more affordable at their campuses while reducing the amount of student loan debt. Each eligible public university campus must match a statutorily prescribed amount of those funds with non-loan financial aid for eligible students and maintain or exceed levels of financial aid given to its Illinois residents from the 2017-18 academic year or the 2021-22 academic year, whichever is less, not including the summer terms. ISAC is responsible for administering the distribution of AIM HIGH grant funds to

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the public universities in compliance with this Part and the AIM HIGH Grant Agreement.

- b) This Part establishes rules that govern AIM HIGH. Additional rules and definitions are contained in General Provisions (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2700 and 44 Ill. Adm. Code 7000)

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2766.15 Definitions

"Baseline Awards" means the total amount of qualifying non-loan financial aid the public university campus awarded to its Illinois resident undergraduate students in academic year 2017-18 or academic year 2021-22, whichever is less, not including the summer terms.

"Illinois High School" - any high school located in Illinois whether or not recognized by the State Board of Education. [110 ILCS 947/65.100]

"Maintenance of Effort" or "MOE" - a requirement that in the academic year AIM HIGH funds are received by the public university campus, the total amount of qualifying non-loan financial aid the public university campus awards to its Illinois resident undergraduate students must be at least as much as its baseline awards and shall not include AIM HIGH funded awards or matching requirement awards made in that academic year.

"Matching Requirement" - requirement that the public university campus use its own funds in the academic year for which the AIM HIGH funds are used to match those AIM HIGH funds as required by 110 ILCS 947/65.100(f), to award non-loan financial aid to its students who meet at least the qualifications described in Section 2766.50(b).

"Public University" - any public 4-year university in Illinois. [110 ILCS 947/10]

"Public University Campus" - any campus under the governance or supervision of a public university. [110 ILCS 947/10]

"Qualifying Non-loan Financial Aid" – non-loan financial aid, the awarding of which is mostly within the control of the public university campus. The data requested to demonstrate this awarding shall be determined by ISAC and shall be applied uniformly across university campuses.

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“Resident of Illinois” or “Illinois Resident” – defined by the laws governing eligibility for in-state tuition at the public university campus.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2766.40 Institutional Procedures

- a) In addition to complying with Section 2766.30, the public university campus shall be responsible for administering and making awards to students in compliance with this Section, Section 2766.50 and the policies of the university campus. For its own awards using its AIM HIGH allocation, a public university campus shall:
- 1) *establish the amount of the award based on an individual or broad basis in compliance with Section 2766.50; [110 ILCS 947/65.100]*
 - 2) establish reasonable criteria consistent with eligibility criteria in Section 2766.50;
 - 3) use grant funds solely to fund awards of non-loan financial aid at that university campus during the academic year, not including summer terms;
 - 4) renew the award each year for each student who meets the renewal criteria established by the public university campus, consistent with the renewal eligibility criteria in Section 2766.50, in amounts not less than the amount provided in the student’s first year at that university campus;
 - 5) give preference to eligible renewal applicants in any academic year funding is insufficient to award to all eligible applicants;
 - 6) *allow qualified part-time undergraduate students who are enrolling in their final semester to apply, [110 ILCS 947/65.100] at the discretion of the public university campus;*
 - 7) use its best efforts to delegate grant funds amongst a racially diverse range of students and not use a student's race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, or pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, or genetic information to disqualify a student from receiving an AIM HIGH award (see P.A. 100-587 and P.A. 100-1015);

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- 87) post on its website the criteria and eligibility requirements and the amount of the AIM HIGH award and provide that information to ISAC and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to post on their respective websites (www.isac.org and www.ibhe.org);
 - 9) *indicate that grants under the program come from AIM HIGH and use the words "AIM HIGH" in the name of any grant under the program and in any published or posted materials about the program; [110 ILCS 947/65.100]*
 - 108) indicate in each initial student award application the renewal criteria for each academic year and not change those criteria for that recipient;
 - 119) make each renewal award contingent upon the availability of funding for the academic year in which the award is used; and
 - 1240) reconcile the amount of claimed and unexpended AIM HIGH funds that were retained but not used for awards in the academic year for which funds were granted before receiving the distribution of its allocation for the next academic year.
- b) Each institution shall be responsible for meeting its statutorily-mandated matching requirement and MOE to remain eligible for its allocation. (See Sections 2766.15 and 2766.20.)
 - c) Annually, on or about the end of each academic year, in a format determined by ISAC, each participating public university campus shall report the following information to ISAC:

 - 1) *the Program's impact on tuition revenue and enrollment goals and increase in access and affordability at the public university campus;*
 - 2) *total funds received by the public university campus under the Program;*
 - 3) *total non-loan financial aid awarded to undergraduate students attending the public university campus;*
 - 4) *total amount of funds matched by the public university campus;*

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- 5) *total amount of claimed and unexpended funds retained by the public university campus;*
- 6) *the percentage of total financial aid, including awards made with matching funds, distributed under the Program by the public university campus; and*
- 7) *the total number of students receiving awards from the public university campus under the Program including awards made with matching funds and those students' name, date of birth, grade level, race, ethnicity, gender, income level, family size, Monetary Award Program eligibility, Pell Grant eligibility, ZIP code of residence, and the amount of each award and the total cost of attendance for each student after non-loan financial aid. This information shall include unit record data on those students regarding variables associated with the parameters of the public university campus' Program, including, but not limited to, a student's ACT or SAT college admissions test score, high school or university cumulative grade point average, or program of study. [110 ILCS 947/65.100]*

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 2766.50 Student Applicant and Recipient Eligibility

- a) An eligible student applicant for funding from an AIM HIGH allocation shall:
 - 1) have attended an Illinois high school;
 - 2) be engaged in a program of study (i.e., course) that in due course will be completed by the end of the school year;
 - 3) complete an application for the award no later than 12 months from the last date of the school year within which the coursework was completed;
 - 4) apply to be enrolled for the first time at the public university campus where the award will be used; and
 - 5) meet all the student eligibility qualifications and requirements under subsection (b) before receiving an award.
- b) In order to meet the eligibility qualifications and requirements, an award recipient shall:

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- 1) *be a resident of Illinois and a citizen or eligible noncitizen of the United States;*
 - 2) *file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that demonstrates financial need with a household income no greater than 86 times the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 USC 9902(2). The household income of the applicant at the time of initial application shall be deemed to be the household income of the applicant for the duration of the pilot program;*
 - 3) *meet the minimum cumulative grade point average or ACT or SAT college admissions test score, as determined by the public university campus;*
 - 4) *be enrolled in a participating public university campus as an undergraduate student on a full-time basis, except as noted in Section 2766.40 a) 6);*
 - 5) *have not yet received a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit hours;*
 - 6) *not be incarcerated;*
 - 7) *not be in default on any student loan nor owe a refund or repayment on any State or federal grant or scholarship; and*
 - 8) *meet any other reasonable criteria, as determined by the public university campus. [110 ILCS 947/65.100]*
- c) An AIM HIGH funded award recipient who meets the eligibility criteria for renewals shall be eligible for an AIM HIGH renewal award in subsequent academic years, the criteria for which shall be determined by the public university campus consistent with the criteria in this Section. AIM HIGH funded award renewal amounts shall be in an amount not less than the AIM HIGH funded amount from the renewal applicant's first year of attendance at the university campus, unless there is a reduction due to changes in the student's cost of attendance, including, but not limited to:
- 1) a reduction in credit hours in which a student is enrolled, but remains a full time student, except as noted in Section 2766.40 a) 6); or

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- 2) switching to a course of study with a lower tuition rate.
- d) An AIM HIGH funded award recipient under subsection (a) or a renewal applicant shall be eligible for non-loan financial aid in the amount determined by the public university campus during the academic year, not including summer terms, and shall be eligible to receive other financial aid.
- e) The total amount of the AIM HIGH funds awarded to a qualified recipient in a given academic year, when added to other financial aid available to the qualified recipient for that year, shall not exceed the cost of attendance.
- f) Applicants eligible for an award using matching requirement funds must meet the criteria in subsection (b). Renewal availability and eligibility criteria shall be determined by the public university campus as required by subsection (b).

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)