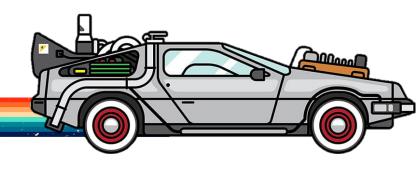


Tommy Semanic – Professional Development Specialist



Agenda



- 1. ISAC Website
- 2. ISAC Services
- 3. State Initiatives
- 4. ISAC Student Portal

ISAC Website

ISAC Homepage



STUDENTS & PARENTS >

☐ ISAC STUDENT PORTAL

RESEARCH & POLICY >

NEWSROOM

ABOUT ISAC >

COUNSELORS

E-LIBRARY

FAA'S

GAP ACCESS

COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING

THE 2024-25 FAFSA® AND THE 2024-25 ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID ARE NOW AVAILABLE

To get financial aid for education after high school, including two and four-year degree programs, technical programs, and certificates, you will need to complete a FAFSA, or if you are a qualifying undocumented student, the Alternative Application. If you are planning to complete the FAFSA, get your FSA ID now!

Please note that the U.S. Department of Education has shared that during the FAFSA "soft launch" period, users may experience a waiting room and pauses in availability of the application as the Department does site maintenance and makes needed updates.

GET INFORMATION ABOUT FINANCIAL AID, HELP COMPLETING APPLICATIONS, AND HELP WITH COLLEGE PLANNING/APPLICATIONS AND MORE

Find free workshops, or contact your local ISACorps member. PLANNING TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA? GET YOUR FAFSA ID NOW

...if you don't already have one.
Note that parents of
dependent students will need
to get their own FSA ID, separate
from their student.

LEARN ABOUT THE ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID

The application for qualifying undocumented students to apply for Illinois MAP grants.

College Outreach

Repayment

FAFSA Completion

Scams

ECACE

College Changes Everything

Professional Development

MAP Matters

GEAR UP

Illinois PaCE

Featured

- ISAC Statement on Impact of On-Going Delays in FAFSA Data Processing - 2/1/24
- Joint letter from education agencies regarding Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions
- ISAC Statement on SCOTUS Decision Blocking Student Debt Relief: Next Steps for Student Borrowers
- ISAC Statement on the SCOTUS Decision Addressing Affirmative Action
- Learn about Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship Program Application
- 2023-24 ECACE Flyer
- Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
- Visit the ISAC Student Portal

What's your path after high school? ISAC can help you find it...

Maybe it's a four-year degree, or maybe it's a certificate or vocational school. Maybe you take a gap year, or step into a job.



ISAC can help you discover what's possible for you—and we can help provide the support and resources for you to carve a path to get there. In addition to the state grants and scholarships we administer, the ISACorps provides direct services to students

Student & Parents



Before College - Planning During College - Paying After College Parents Español

Home Students & Parents

Students & Parents

Created especially for students of every age who are looking for information about going to college, this area of our website has all your answers. Although it was written with students in mind, parents of college-bound students will find this information helpful, too. Plus, there's a link below for parent-specific topics.

ISAC Student Portal



The ISAC Student Portal is where you'll apply for many of ISAC's programs. There are also tools to keep track of college planning

Student & Parent Message Board

The Student & Parent Message Board is updated each week.

NEW 2024-25 Pell Grant Maximum Award

NEW 2023-24 John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program applications due March 15

NEW ISAC offices closed on February 12 for Lincoln's Birthday

NEW 2024-25 FAFSA and ISIR

Information for Professionals

https://www.isac.org/e-library/



E-Library for Partners

1. Partner E-Messages & Newsletters

This month's e-Messages and the monthly/quarterly ISAC Updates and Communique

2. Partner Training

ISAC training and event calendars and online registration

3. Applications & Forms

Scholarship, grant, and loan repayment/forgiveness applications, common FFELP forms and ISAC brochures

4. Administrative Rules

Current and previous year's ISAC Rules, Proposed Rules if applicable

5. ISAC Governing Board: The Commission

Meeting schedules, Commissioner biographies, Agenda Books

6. Manuals & Handbooks

Common Manual, Federal Student Aid Handbook, Counselors and Mentors Handbook, Handbook of Illinois Postsecondary Institutions Partner E-Messages And Newsletters

Partner Training

Applications & Forms

Administrative Rules

The Commission

Outreach Events

Electronic Tools

Applying For Financial Aid

ISAC Transcript Exchange

Federal Information

Job Aids And Reference Materials

Press Releases And State Legislative Update

Research, Policy Analysis & Statistics

Advisory Groups

Quick Links

Quick Links

Borrowers

Counselors

e-Library

FAAs

GAP Access

IDAPP

Lenders

Military Service

Non-Eligible, Non-Citizens

Transcript Exchange

About ISAC

Contact ISAC

Employment

Executive Director

The Commission

FOIA

Social Networks







800.899.ISAC (4722)

e-Messaging

Get the latest news & updates from ISAC

Order ISAC Materials

Applications

ISAC Publications

- PDF versions available online for viewing or printing
- You can order printed materials on our website by clicking "Order Materials" at the bottom of the page
- Materials are free and will be shipped at no cost
 - Takes approximately 10 days for delivery

Counselors Order Materials (Mail & Print) order. Please be sure to review the entire order form for all available options If you do not have a school code, please enter NA in the school code field For printed materials, please allow approximately 10 days for delivery Date following publication name indicates the current version - please discard older versions and order a current supply of the publications. You can download and print a single version of these items by clicking on the pdf icon. If you have questions about ISAC's materials, please call School Services toil free at 866.247.2172 or send an e-mail message to isac.schoolservices@isac.illinois.gov. " indicates required field Counselors Order Materials by Mail Address Une 2 State / Province / Region United State The 4 Steps to College Checktst (Spanish) (10/13) FE7E7 - Student Portal Postcard (3/13) 7 F2752 - What's Next FAFSA/College Application Posts (2/17) 🝱

ISAC e-Messaging

Sign up to receive latest new and updates from ISAC, including:

- ISAC's Programs and Services
- Monetary Award Program (MAP) Suspense Date
- Professional Development Opportunities, etc.

e-Messaging Sign-Up

Our e-Messaging service will keep you informed and up-to-date on the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's programs and services. Although Constant Contact is the provider for the e-Messaging service, our messages share ISAC programmatic and operational information and are not marketing in nature.

From the options below, choose the category that best describes you, and then subscribe to one or more of the available Email Lists by filling out your name and e-mail address and clicking on "Sign Up!".

Students/Parents

Financial Aid
Administrators (FAAs)

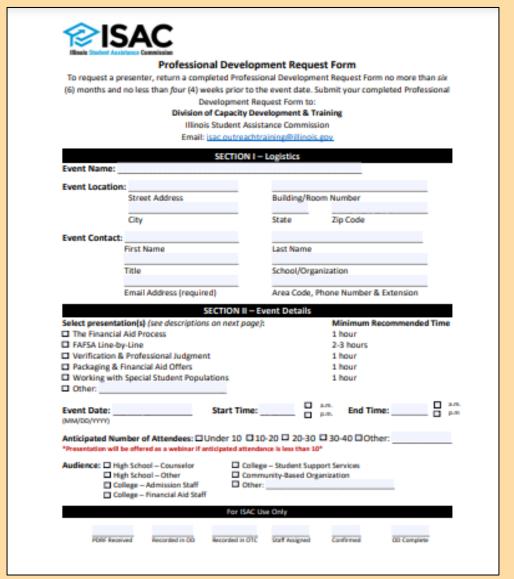
Lenders

ISAC Professional Development

Free financial aid training for college-access professionals in Illinois

Topics include:

- FAFSA Line-by-Line
- Alternative Application Overview
- Working with Special Student Populations
- Monthly PD Webinars
- Financial Aid Certification Series



ISAC Services

ISACorps

Near-peer mentoring

- One-on-one assistance for students and their families
- College and career exploration
- Completing financial aid applications
- Resumes

Presentations and workshops:

- Financial Aid Process presentation
- College 101 presentation
- Managing College Costs presentation
- Welcome to High School presentation
- Financial Aid Completion workshop
- Financial Aid Offer workshop and more!

Connect with your local ISACorps Member

The ISACorps are here to help you through the college planning process! ISACorps members are recent college graduates from across the state that can help you with the ins and outs of selecting and applying to college, scholarship searches, student financial aid, and financial aid application completion. Meet with your local ISACorps member for free one-on-one assistance or at FREE college fairs and financial aid workshops in your community.

60455

GO



Araceli Manzo

community college district assigned to:

MORAINE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Manzo@illinois.gov

© (708) 240-1602

Additional Language: Spanish

Now is the time to complete your 2024-25 financial aid form!

If you are applying to college for 2024-25, you will want to complete the 2024-25 FAFSA, or if you are qualifying undocumented student, the 2024-25 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, so you can get money to help pay for college! Find the FAFSA at fafsa.gov. (Please note that the U.S. Department of Education has shared that during the FAFSA "soft launch" period, users may experience a waiting room and pauses in availability of the application as the Department does site maintenance and makes needed updates.) Qualifying undocumented students can use the Alternative Application to apply for state financial aid: isac.org/AlternativeApp.

If you and your parents are going to submit the FAFSA, you will each need to get a separate FSA ID (if you don't already have one). Get your FSA ID at studentaid.gov/fsa-id before you plan to complete the FAFSA.



Megan Tracy

community college district assigned to:

MORAINE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Megan.Tracy@illinois.gov

(308) 329-9195

Alternative Application User Guide

Completing the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid User Guide

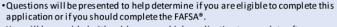
The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act, which went into effect on January 1, 2020, provides that "a student who is an Illinois resident and who is not otherwise eligible for federal financial aid, including, but not limited to, a transgender student who is disqualified for failure to register for selective service or a noncitizen student who has not obtained lawful permanent residence, shall be eligible for state financial aid and benefits ...".

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has developed the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid to provide a pathway for students who meet the provisions of the RISE Act to apply for the

Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant. The Alternative Application collects much of the same data as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), but is administered by ISAC.

The Alternative Application Process

Complete **Pre-Screening** Questions



- You will be provided with guidance on which application to complete after answering the pre-screening questions.
- Data collected in the pre-screening questions will be retained by ISAC and will not be shared with colleges.



Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act and Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

Home | Students & Parents | Before College - Planning | Financial Aid Planning | RISE Act/Alternative Application

SISAC The RISE Act and the Alter

APPLICATION

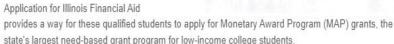
FOR ILLINOIS

Q ISAC.org/AlternativeApp

En Español

(last updated August 11, 2022)

The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act allows eligible undocumented students and transgender students disqualified from federal financial aid due to failure to register for Selective Service (see Transgender Students area below for more explanation) to apply for all forms of state financial aid. The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid



Applying for ISAC Programs Application for MAP: Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Application Process for MAP Applying for Other ISAC Programs

Applying for ISAC Programs





GAP Access

- Online portal used to application submissions, program eligibility, and payment requests for ISACadministered programs
- Illinois public and private high schools can upload their senior class roster into GAP access – this ensures high schools receive the most accurate information

For questions, contact:

<u>Isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov</u>

NEW! The Nonparticipation Form is Now Online!

- Students will complete the waiver via ISAC's Student Portal – under Program Applications & Status Checks
- The student and/or parent will each need a student portal account
- Once completed and submitted, the information will populate in your class roster in the Gift Assistance Portal (GAP) Access

FAFSA Nonparticipation Form

Apply here

Note: Students who are 18 can complete the waiver themselves

https://studentportal.isac.org/

State Scholar Program

- Students in top 10% of graduating class are designated as State Scholars
 - No monetary value
 - Student can list this designation on resumes and college applications
- The high school submits a class roster with sixth semester data, which includes:
 - Class roster
 - Grade Point Average (GPA)
 - Class Rank (if applicable)

Data is submitted via GAP Access – this is separate upload from FAFSA Completion Initiative

www.isac.org/isac-gift-assistance-programs/state-scholar-program

State Initiatives

www.isac.org/initiatives

College Changes Everything Campaign

- Mission of the CCE Campaign is to encourage to complete their college and financial aid applications
- To participate, schools and organizations:
 - Submit an Outreach Request Form
 and
 - Conduct one college application workshop and one financial aid completion workshop

	s than three (3) weeks prior to the event to isac.ou to the COVID-19 pandemic and for the safety of stal		Il outreach events in 2020 will be
done virtually unti	I otherwise noted. ISAC staff will work with organize t. Your understanding and flexibility are greatly app	ers to determine the optim	
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Host:			
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	City	State	ZIP Code
Event Contact:			
	First Name	Last Name	
	Title	Organization	
	Area Code & Phone Number & Extension	Email Address (re	equired)
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ISAC Transcript Exchange

- Provides a secure, online process for sharing transcript information for Illinois students
- Service is at NO COST to Illinois high schools
- To participate or learn more, contact:

Lenore Smith

Lenore.Smith@Illinois.gov

(217) 685-2678

ISAC Transcript Exchange

Attention Students: The information on this page describes the process by which Illinois high schools can participate in the ISAC Transcript Exchange. Students who wish to request that their academic transcripts be sent to their prospective college(s) should contact their high school guidance counselor for assistance.



Overview

Parchment's K-12 Member Testimonials

No Cost

Register to Participate

Overview

The ISAC Transcript Exchange, through Parchment Exchange enables the electronic exchange of transcript information for Illinois students.

Launched in fall 2011, the service provides the opportunity for students to request that transcripts be sent electronically to the college(s) of their choice. To protect the privacy and confidentiality of transcript data, documents are sent through a secure transcript service in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Parchment's K-12 Member Testimonials & Case Study

Click on the below link to hear from some of your school peers about how Parchment has helped them during this challenging time due to COVID-19.

Parchment's K-12 Member Testimonials (YouTube video)

Click on this case study link to learn how one Illinois school district (Belleville Township High School District 201) implemented Parchment to address their transcript processing challenges and improve their service to students.

No Cost

The ISAC Transcript Exchange service is free of charge when transcripts are sent electronically to any participating college worldwide, including the NCAA and Common App.

Register to Participate in ISAC Transcript Exchange

If your high school or district is ready to participate in the ISAC Transcript Exchange, please reach out to Heidi Dodge from Parchment at hdodge@parchment.com or 480.719.1646 x1021. She can get you started with the registration process and on your way to sending transcripts electronically.

Illinois Postsecondary & Career Expectations Framework (PaCE)

- Framework outlines information a student should have to make the most informed decision about college and career planning
- ISAC PaCE support options:
 - PaCE Overview Presentation
 - PaCE Framework Development Workshop

For information, resources, or the

PaCE Support Request Form, visit

PaCE Framework Implementation support

our website



Postsecondary and Career Expectations

Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions about career and post-secondary (PS) education or training, to plan a course of study, and to make financial aid assessments with family



By the end of 9th grade

A student should be supported to: complete a career cluster survey

- complete a career interest survey
- attend a PS options workshop
- select course work for PS/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators
- enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses
- outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- attend a basic financial aid

A student should know:

- one or two careers for further exploration
- the relationship between HS coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
- importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans
- general cost ranges of various PS



By the end of 10th grade

- A student should be supported to: visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests
- participate in activities related to their career cluster of interest
- select a career area of interest enroll in career pathway (CP) as
- explore opportunities along the Work Based Learning Continuum
- connect and build relationships with 2-3 adults to support the PS and career selection process
- review coursework, and PS/career plans in relation to the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (every year)
- attend a basic financial aid presentation with a family member

A student should know

- educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected
- o skills related to career interests
- · different types of PS credentials
- general timing of PS entrance exams and applications
- benefit of early college credit opportunities to PS access and

By the end of 11th grade

- A student should be supported to: revisit the career interest survey
- participate in a mock job interview
- o create a resume and personal
- o complete an experience within the Work Based Learning Continuum
- determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course
- complete at least one early college credit opportunity
- attend a college fair
- visit at least 3 PS institutions
- take at least one college entrance
- A complete a Postsecondary Plan Workshop

A student should know

- o application deadlines, test timing cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for CP
- entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected PS programs of study
- 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study
- negative impact of remediation on PS
- financial aid deadlines for chosen PS

By the end of 12th grade

By the end of 12th grade a studen should be supported to:

- challenges.
- o obtain an internship opportunity related to the CP if applicable
- o if applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) related to the CP o address any remedial needs in
- math/FLA complete a financial aid offer
- A student should know:

workshop

o how CP courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS

- estimated cost of chosen PS options
- affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary
- and anticipated debt . terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan

By 12/31 of 12th grade a studen should have:

- completed 3 or more admissions
- applications to PS institutions
- ensure all steps in the PS admissions process are completed on time
- attended a Financial Aid Application completion workshop
- completed a financial aid application







Parent Outreach



The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is the college access and financial aid agency in the state of Illinois that administers scholarships, grants, and student loan repayment/forgiveness programs. Our mission is to provide Illinois students with information and assistance to help make education beyond high school accessible and affordable.

Parent Outreach

- Work throughout the state, virtually or in-person
- Provide presentations for parents and one-on-one meetings as needed
- Working in collaboration with Community Based Organizations, schools and/or districts
- Help parents of first-generation college students understand the college planning, admissions and financial aid process





Parent Outreach Initiatives

Stand-alone presentations/workshop:

A) Overview of ISAC's programs and Services

 An overview of some of the ISAC's free services and initiatives along with how parents can benefit from them and utilize them to help support their student.

B) Early awareness in Educational Planning

• An emphasis on how early awareness of the different aspects in education can lead to more parent involvement which is essential for student's success starting as early as middle school or 7th grade

C) The Financial Aid Process

 Outlines the general financial aid process and provides insight on how financial aid works, how to apply for it, student eligibility, and how it can be used to help pay for college

D) Financial Aid Offer Workshop

• Intended to help parents understand financial aid offers from colleges. Students usually receive these financial aid offers in the spring after submitting their Financial aid application

Parent Outreach Initiatives

4-session series - PowerPoint Presentations:

- This series of presentations address and discuss the various activities and tasks at each high school grade level that parents and other adult family members can do to help support their student and prepare them for the postsecondary path that best fits their needs and goals.
- These presentations are ideal for parents of students in 8th grade and/or high school.
- 1) Being persistent: Sharing a vision plan on setting your child up to continue their education beyond high school
- 2) Pushing your child: Setting up and preparing your child academically, meeting school requirements and discussing their future
- 3) Finding the best fit: Searching and finding a school that matches your child's career goals
- **4) Getting your hands in some money**: Ensuring financial assistance deadlines are met and selecting career path

Parent Outreach Initiatives

Chat Sessions:

Parents and other adult family members of first-generation college students are often unfamiliar with the college application and financial aid process that their students face

Through this **series of five** informal, interactive conversations, we will address

- 1) the core elements of the US Education System
- 2) strategies for career exploration
- 3) discuss and explain the differences between technical/vocational, community college and university
- 4) provide a general overview of the financial aid process and terminology (Merit vs need-based financial aid)
- 5) and how those who may be new to the college-going process can support their student with their academic goals

FAFSA Symposium

- Share updates on the FAFSA and Alternative Application
- Provides an opportunity for attendees to hear from presenters on how their schools and districts support students and families with financial aid applications.

2023 Example

Illinois Central College - October 2

Moraine Valley Community College - November 7

PaCE Symposium

 The PaCE Symposium brings people from across Illinois to share and learn how schools, districts, and communities are collaborating and advancing postsecondary and career readiness efforts using the Illinois PaCE Framework.

2023 Example

April 20th – Springfield Wyndham Hotel May 11th - Virtual

First Gen Symposium

- The First Gen Symposium provides an opportunity for you to learn and share best practices for supporting first-generation students in postsecondary planning. At this year's symposium, you will:
- Hear from programs actively seeking to increase belongingness among first-generation college students
- Hear from first-generation students and professionals on best practices and solutions that have come out of the barriers they faced
- Learn about developing events tailored to firstgeneration students

2024 Example

March 11 – North Central College

First Generation Scholars Network

To join the First Generation Scholars Network (FGSN), students can click the JOIN NOW! button on the Student Portal

Joining allows students to:

- Connect with an FGSN mentor
- Find an FGSN program on campus
- Join "check-in" events with other first-generation students

Services are free!

Join the Network

Ready to join?

You can join using our online form

JOIN NOW!

Have questions? Email us at ISAC.FirstGen@illinois.gov

First Up Podcast

NEW! – First gen podcast with advice and information for our first gen students.

Topics include:

- Financial Aid
- Parents
- Networking
- Dealing w/ Stress



First Up: Brought to You by ISAC

Hosted by Brian White and Jasmine Jetton-Gonzales. First Up is brought to you by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, o ISAC for short. Here on First Up, every episode will be filled with informative conversation, advice, and stories of the difficulties and triumphs that many first generation students and their families face. Tune in with us every week on Wednesdays, as we discuss the things we wish we knew before, during, and after college.















Resources - Counselors

Resources available on how to help students complete FAFSA, learn about different initiatives and resources from the Department of Education.

Counselors

At your fingertips, High School Counselors/Personnel, College Admission Counselors, library and community agency staff have access to a centralized source of information concerning college planning, paying for school, and career planning information for students and their parents, as well as information concerning ISAC's programs, processes, and resources.

- ISAC Gift Assistance Programs
- Other Programs
- Processes
- Resources
- e-Library

Counselor Quick Links





Professional









Exchange

Development Transcript



Illinois PaCE: Postsecondary and Career Expectations



Financial Aid Toolkit



Illinois Postsecondary Profiles

> Scholarship Searches







The College Board



IACAC



Access to Illinois Health & Human Services

Training Calendar

Resources for Non-U.S. Citizens (including Illinois DREAM Act)

LADDER"



ISAC Student Portal

Student Portal Postcard



SAC COLLEGE PLANNING MADE EASY.

studentportal.isac.org

The ISAC Student Portal has all the tools you need to help you with college planning, financial aid, student loans and money management, and even career exploration and job search-all free and just a click away!







COLLEGE AND SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

Check out resources and apps from ISAC's partners to search college profiles, both nationally and specifically in Illinois, and to search a database of billions of dollars in scholarships.





FINANCIAL AID

Need financial aid for college but not sure what's out there and how to apply? Learn about financial aid with the FinAid Game, use our MAP Estimator to determine your eligibility for a MAP grant, and compare your financial aid offers with our easy-to-use, online Financial Aid Comparison Worksheet.



IN-PERSON AND ONLINE HELP WITH COLLEGE PLANNING AND FINANCIAL AID

Find a free in-person workshop in your area, an online workshop, or contact your local ISACorps member for free one-on-one assistance with college planning, college and financial aid applications, and more.

Plus...more tools and resources to assist you!



MONEY MANAGEMENT



ISAC Student Portal

- Free college and career planning platform for students including:
 - Resources
 - Toolbox
 - ISACorps
 - ISAC Programs
 - Now Playing

www.studentportal.isac.org



COLLEGE PLANNING MADE EASY.

Planning for college can seem pretty overwhelming, but it's a lot easier with the right tools just a click away. And it's even better when those tools are free! Use the ISAC Student Portal to help you choose a college, learn about careers, find scholarships, simplify the financial aid process, learn how to budget your money, and much more. You can even connect with one of our ISACorps counselors for one-on-one help or to find a workshop in



Student Portal - Resources

- Appily
- Claim Your Future
- Illinois College2Career
- Illinois WorkNet
- ISAC College Q&A
- College Scorecard
- Illinois
 college/university
 food pantries





Appily (formerly, Cappex)

Get a jump on college planning and find the colleges you want and the scholarships you need. Use Appily to get matched with possible scholarships, to compare colleges, and to figure out your chances of admission at colleges of interest to you.



Play Claim Your Future®-- a game that encourages exploration of education and training after high school, future careers, and money management.





College2Career

Try the new Illinois College2Career tool to find the Illinois college or university that's the best fit for your education and career goals. Easily search a variety of different categories, including: costs, financial aid, graduation rates, student debt, jobs, earnings after graduation for different areas of study, and more.

WorkNet 🔀

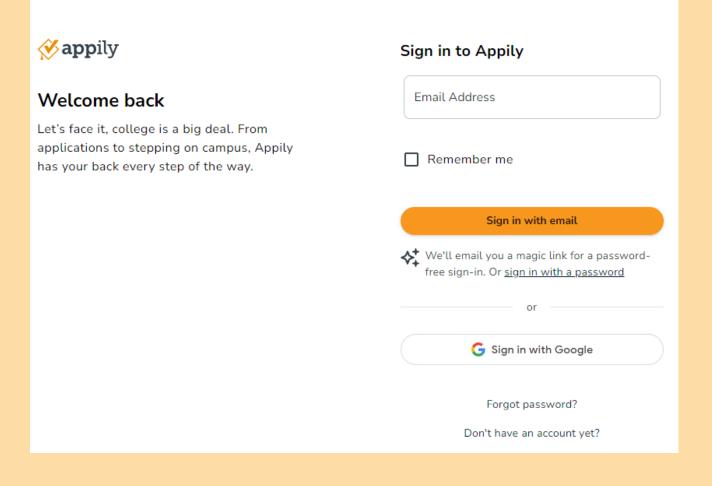
Use Illinois workNet to explore careers, job training programs, and look up salaries. You can even build a resume, search for jobs, negotiate your salary and get tips on how to succeed in your new position.





Appily

- A scholarship and college search platform
- Designed for students to explore different options based on preferences and eligibility



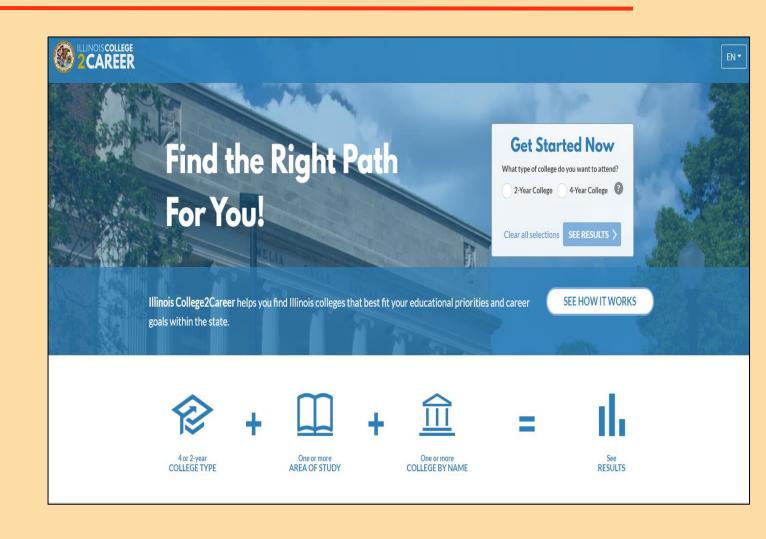
Claim Your Future

- •Financial literacy game that allows students to choose a career and navigate through different spending choices
- •Game can be played online or using the game kit, which includes:
 - Career wheels based on Illinois employment statistics
 - Printable budget worksheet
 - Additional financial education resources
- Limited to one kit per school



Illinois College2Career

- College search tool for Illinois colleges or universities
- Search options include:
 - Career Outcomes
 - Costs
 - Financial Aid
 - Graduation Rates
 - Student Debt



Illinois WorkNet

- A web platform that provides individuals with resources that focuses on:
 - Skills inventory
 - Interest profiler
 - Job searching
 - Resume building
 - Career exploration and preparations

GUIDES & TOOLS

All of the guides and tools are affiliated with Illinois workNet.



Quick Start Guide

Use the Quick Start Guide to learn how Illinois workNet can help you achieve your training and career



Use this search to find locations near you where staff can assist with your employment and training



Business Hub

The Business Hub is the one-stop shop for your business needs. Learn more about available tools and information that can



Job Skills Guide

Make sure you have the skills employers want! When you are searching for a job, it is important to recognize the skills ..



Design, write, and share your resume, practice interviewing and more with the Illinois workNet Resume Building tool.



The Illinois workNet Youth Resources are quick and easy to use. Use this guide to learn how to explore careers, prepare ...



disabilityworks

Helping individuals with disabilities achieve their training and employ ment goals.



There are dedicated programs and services for Veterans nationally and in Illinois. Don't miss out on valuable compensati...



WIOA Contract Reporting

Illinois workNet provides a means to report all of the contracts and contract values as required by the IWIB Act through...



Incumbent Worker Tracking System

The Illinois workNet Incumbent Worker Tracking System (IWTS) is the source for planning for and reporting on Incumbent W...



Illinois workNet offers assessments that can be used as part of the career development process.



Determine and set your employment goals with the selfguided tools in Employment 101.

ISAC College Q&A

- Service for students and parents to text us their questions about college and financial aid
- Questions are answered by ISAC staff during regular business hours
- Students are sent targeted messages by grade level
 - i.e. It's time to complete your FAFSA! Visit www.FAFSA.gov to complete it.
- To get started, text your first and last name to the number (English 847, Spanish 773)



ISAC College Q&A

Check out the ISAC College Q&A text messaging service - get your questions about college planning and financial aid answered via text message, and receive important information about college planning events and deadlines.

To use the service simply text your first and last name to: (847) 243-6470

Servicio en español: (773) 823-0570

University Food Pantries/Services

https://www.isac.org/students/during-college/documents/College-Food-Pantries-Illinois.pdf

Resources for Food, Housing and Medical Care

Ideally, a student's financial aid package will cover most of their cost of attendance charges, including tuition, fees and living expenses, however, when that is not the case, here are some suggested resources that may be available to assist students.

Food Resources

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps) helps low-income people and families buy the food they need for good health.
 - Illinois Department of Human Services Help Line: 800-843-6154
 - Eligibility and application information: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=33698
- Illinois Hunger Coalition Hunger Hotline
 - o 800-359-2163
 - www.iihunger.org
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) provides temporary financial assistance for pregnant women and families with one or more dependent children.
 - Illinois Department of Human Services Help Line: 800-843-6154
 - Eligibility and application information: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30358
- . Women, infants, and Children Program (WIC) -- a food assistance program for women, infants, and children
 - State WIC Office: 217-782-2166
 - Eligibility and application information: www.dhs.state.ii.us/page.aspx?item=30513
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) a federal program that provides food at no cost to help supplement the diets of needy low-income households.
 - https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program
- Your institution's Student Services Department may be aware of school or community-based resources or local food banks that can provide assistance if you do not meet the requirements for SNAP benefits. See the list of Illinois College Food Pantries on the following pages.
 - Links to other local food resources: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=31245

Housing & Utilities Resources

- Emergency and Transitional Housing Program -- gives immediate and comprehensive shelter services to homeless
 persons and persons at risk of becoming homeless.
 - Illinois Department of Human Services Help Line: 800-843-6154
 - Information: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30362
 - Other programs: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29723
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps keep families safe and healthy through initiatives
 that assist families with energy costs.
 - https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/liheap

Child and Dependent Care

If you need help caring for children or other dependents while attending college, several resources are available to you.

Illinois Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) provides financial assistance to student parents who qualify. Eligible students are those who:

- live in Illinois
- work and/or are enrolled in an educational program
- · have children under 13 who need care (or up to 19 for children with special needs), and
- have a family income below certain limits (based on family size).

With CCAP, child care co-pays could be as little as \$2 a month. To learn more about the Child Care Assistance Program and to apply, visit the Illinois Department of Human Services website (www.dhs.state.il.us). Also available at the DHS website:

- Affordable Child Care Brochure (English)
- Cuidado de Niños a su alcance (Español)
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Policy Manual

Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

For help in finding local child care options, visit the website of the <u>Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies</u> (inccrra.org), a statewide organization that partners with local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agencies to make quality, affordable child care available to children and families in Illinois. Child care resource and referral services are available in all Illinois communities through a local CCR&R Agency.

- Available services by local area: https://www.inccrra.org/about/sdasearch
- . Other resources: https://www.inccrra.org/excelerate

Dependent Care Allowance

A student's cost of attendance (COA) for college is a key factor in determining the amount of financial aid that a student may be able to receive. For students with dependents, an allowance for costs for dependent care can be included in the COA, and it can be for care that includes but is not limited to class time, study time, internships, and commuting time for the student. The amount of the allowance will be based on the number and age of the dependents and cannot exceed reasonable costs in the community for the type of care provided.

By including the costs of child and/or dependent care in a student's financial aid calculation, the student may be able to access additional financial assistance. This may include loans, which, it is important to note, must be repaid, but some students may also be eligible for more grant or scholarship money. Students should work directly with the financial aid office at their college or university to determine eligibility, get guidance on whether this adjustment would benefit them, and recalculate their financial aid.

Because the college is not always aware that a student has dependent care expenses, it's important for the student to initiate contact with the financial aid office and explain the need to include this allowance in their COA so it can be taken into consideration when determining the full amount of financial aid the student may be eligible to receive.

Additionally, if a student has a special circumstance that would justify an increase in the dependent care allowance, the student should provide that information to the financial aid office as well. The college may require supporting documentation for special circumstances.

Student Portal - Toolbox

- FinAid game
- Internships and summer job postings
- College checklist
- Event calendar
- Financial aid comparison worksheet
- PaCE student checklist
- MAP Estimator
- State Scholar Program badge claim & verification

TOOLBOX

Handy tools to help you with college preparation, financial aid, and more.

ALI



FinAid Game

How much do you know about student financial aid? Take the quiz and find out.



Internship and Summer Jobs

Use the Job Board to find a coop position, summer job or internship at an Illinois company.



College Checklist

Stay on top of all the steps you need to take in planning for college.



Event Calendar

Attend a free college application planning, or financial aid workshop in your area.



Financial Aid Comparison Worksheet

Easily compare financial aid offers from colleges.



PaCE Student Checklist

Explore the activities and experiences for grades 8-12 that can help you prepare for college and career.



MAP Estimator

Going to college in Illinois? Find out if you can get a MAP grant.

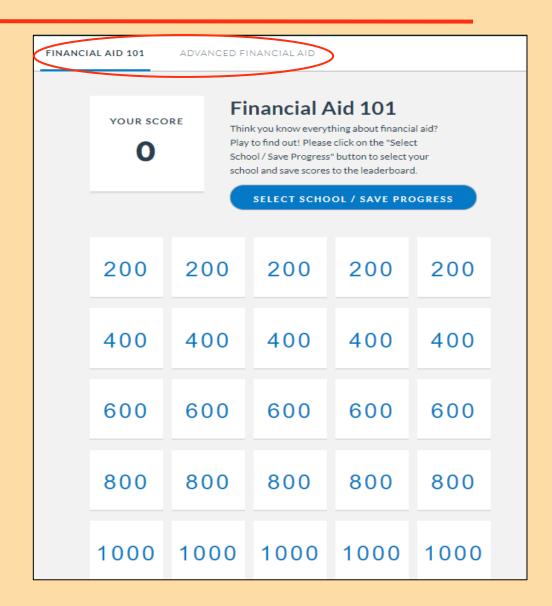


State Scholar Program Badge Claim & Verification

Claim and download your official badge, and have schools verify its authenticity.

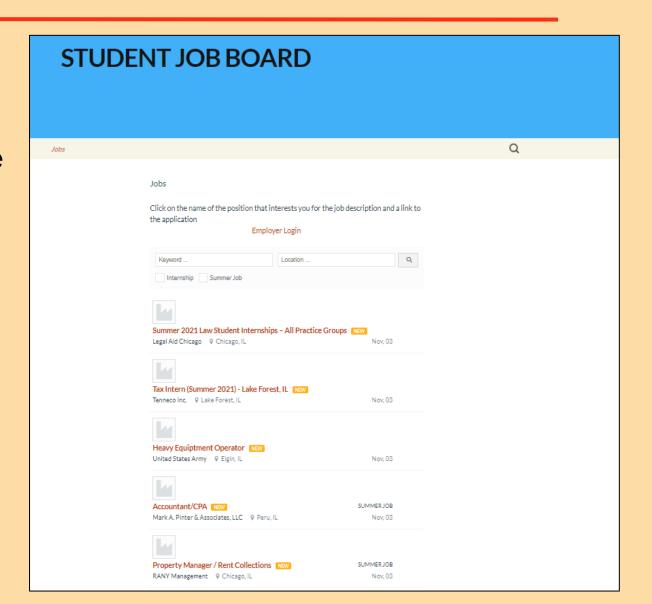
Financial Aid Game

- Game to test financial aid knowledge
- Students can be divided into groups to work together to answer questions correctly and earn points
- Two levels
 - Financial aid 101
 - Advanced financial aid



Internships and Summer Jobs

- Listing of co-op positions, jobs, and internships for students at different Illinois companies across the state
- Expose students to experiential learning opportunities as they explore different careers
- Search by:
 - Keywords
 - Locations
 - Internships
 - Jobs



ISAC Event Calendar

- Students and parents can find FREE public events near them hosted by the ISACorps
 - FAFSA &
 Alternative
 Application
 completion
 workshops
 - Financial aid presentations

ISACORPS

The ISACorps – making college a reality for students across Illinois.

ISACORPS

EVENTS

Find An Event Near You

ISAC is here to support you every step of the way with college planning and financial aid, with free college planning and financial aid events. You can also get one-on-one assistance with college planning and financial aid from the ISACorps member in your area. Find your ISACorps member.

If you would like to schedule an event for your school or organization, please complete and submit our **ISAC Outreach Request Form**.

You can enter your zip code to find the outreach events closest to you. Please note that in-person events will be conducted in accordance with state and local health guidelines. Advance registration may be required for online events.



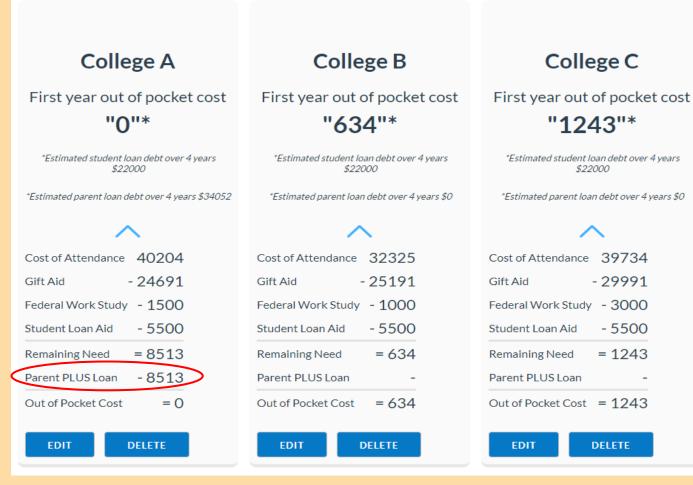


Financial Aid Comparison Worksheet

- Worksheet that allows students to compare up to 3 financial aid offers at a time
- Helps student calculate outof-pocket costs
- Gives a better understanding of the components within financial aid offers such as:
 - Cost of attendance
 - Gift aid
 - Federal work study
 - Student loan aid
 - Remaining need

2022-2023 Academic Year

Add another college to compare award packages.



- 5500

= 1243

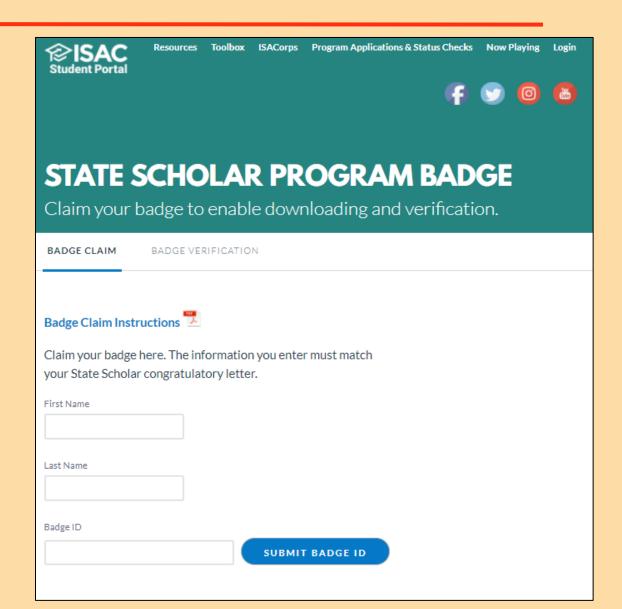
MAP Estimator

- Calculator that provides a student's estimated MAP award based on:
 - SAI
 - Dependency status
 - Colleges of Interest
- Ability to compare 3 Illinois schools at a time

To use the tool, you'll need your Student Aid Index (SAI) from your FAFSA Submission Summary if your SAI, find it by using the Federal Student Aid Estimator . If you're a dependent student know your adjusted gross income (AGI) from the most recent tax year, as well as your cash, savings a	, you will also need to
balances.	
My SAI is	
For the purposes of the FAFSA, I am	
Independent	
Dependent	
I am interested in attending	
Select College Choice	
Select College Choice v	
Select College Choice 🔻	
GET ESTIMATE	RESET

State Scholar Program Badge

- Students who are designated as Illinois State Scholars may claim a digital badge on the Student Portal
- The digital badge can be shared on online profiles and social media accounts
- Schools are able to verify badge authenticity to ensure that students have been selected as State Scholars



Program Applications & Status Checks

- MAP Paid Credit Hours
- ING status check and application
- IVG status check and application
- MTI status check and application
- Grant Program for Exonerees application
- Opt-out Waiver (FAFSA Nonparticipation Form)



Student Portal – Now Playing

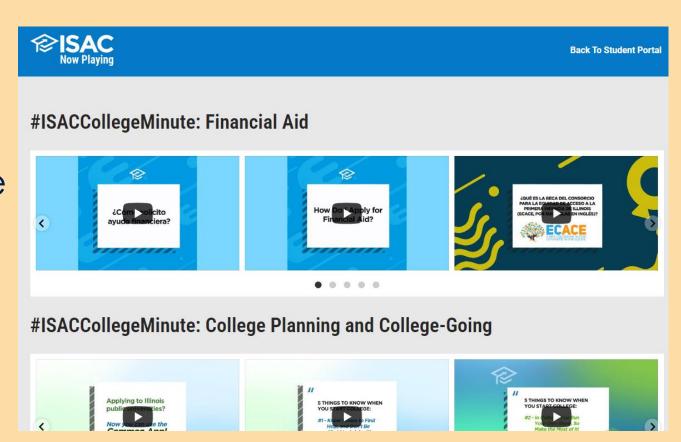
ISAC College Minute videos

- Financial Aid
- College Planning and College-Going

Recorded Facebook Live videos

ISAC tutorials for college and career-exploration tools

Videos in available in English and Spanish



Thank You! Questions? Contact us at isac.outreachtraining@illinois.gov

