ISAC Update and
An Overview of
GAP Access
Redesign

April 25, 2018
2017-18 MAP Reminders

- There have been multiple releases of student records from suspended status:
  - The last release was of records with an initial FAFSA receipt date of February 15, 2017 through and including March 9, 2017
  - Applicants with an initial 2017-18 FAFSA receipt date on or after March 10, 2017 remain in a suspense status

- ISAC is currently accepting 2017-18 third term payment claims as well as first and second term claims for eligible students who were released from suspended status:
  - Schools may also make adjustments/corrections to first and second term claims
  - All MAP claims must be submitted to ISAC no later than 7 p.m. on June 1, 2018

- Be sure to review the Payment Results/Exceptions report that is generated by ISAC in the Reports section of GAP Access the day after submitting payment requests to confirm that all requests processed as expected
2018-19 MAP

- 2018-19 start-up activities were implemented in GAP Access in October 2017
  - Based on the 2018-19 start-up formula, the maximum annual award amount for the MAP grant is being reduced by 2%, which makes the effective maximum $4,869
- Applicants whose initial 2018-19 FAFSA® is received by CPS on or after Wednesday, February 28, 2018 will be in suspended status
  - MAP records in suspense status will be reflected in GAP Access with a MAP Suspend Code of “S”
    - The MAP system contains filters that will allow you to identify student records and create a report of those records placed in suspense status

### 2018-19 MONETARY AWARD PROGRAM (MAP) APPLICANT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT STATUS CHART

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Initial FAFSA® Receipt Date</th>
<th>Award Announcement</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All applicants</td>
<td>October 1, 2017 through February 27, 2018</td>
<td>Full Year</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 28, 2018 and after</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program

- Online application can be submitted anytime during academic year
  - Turnaround time for processing is currently at about 3 weeks
  - Applicant must notify school of his/her eligibility no later than the last day of classes for the term for which the grant is requested

- Benefit request process is completed by schools in GAP Access
  - Benefit request deadline date for the spring 2018 term is May 25, 2018
    - Spring term is the last term of the IVG award year
    - Adjustments to requests in previous terms can be made in GAP Access
Launched IVG benefit request process in GAP Access on February 21, 2018

A User Guide and FTP File Specifications have been posted to isac.org for your reference

See the February 21, 2018 e-message for more details and links to the resources
IVG in GAP Access

- To access the IVG system, you will need a valid GAP Access ID and password.
  - Your IVG system program privileges must be set to:
    - IVG "View" to be able to view IVG eligibility and benefits used information, and
    - IVG "Update" to request, edit or update IVG benefit usage data.

- Once you have successfully logged in to GAP Access, the IVG information can be accessed by selecting the IVG tab near the top of the screen.
- The functionality for benefit request processing is accessed via the Benefits tab.
IVG in GAP Access

- The initial student list that you will see when logging in to the IVG system will be a list of all students who have received an IVG benefit at your institution in the last three academic years.
- You will then have the ability through the Add Student screen to search ISAC’s database for new, additional students who may want to use their IVG benefits at your school.
  - Once you’ve added a student to your list, you will be able to see an eligibility detail screen for them and create a benefit request for them.
  - You will only be able to add eligible students to your school list.
- The academic terms are numbered in the IVG system as follows:
  - 3 = Summer term
  - 1 = Fall term
  - 2 = Spring term
IVG in GAP Access

- To add a student to your school list, you must enter at least two of the three student identifiers.
- If your search does not provide a result, that means either the student is not eligible or is not in ISAC’s database.
  - For example, you will not be able to add a student whose IVG application is in process and has not yet been determined to be eligible or an applicant whose status may have changed from eligible to ineligible.
- If you are unable to locate a student who you believe should be in ISAC’s IVG database, please contact ISAC’s School Services Department for assistance at 866-247-2172 or isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov.
2017-18 Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- Application deadlines dates:
  - October 1 — first term
  - March 1 — second semester, second and/or third quarter
  - June 15 — summer term

- Colleges that have not already done so are reminded to submit 2017-18 benefits used data for the spring term as soon as possible
  - Data regarding ING Grant benefits used must be submitted so eligibility units can be accurately assessed to students' accounts.
Grant Programs for Dependents of Police/Fire/Correctional Officers

- ISAC application must be submitted each year
  - Deadline dates are:
    - October 1 for consideration for all terms
    - March 1 for consideration for second semester/second and third quarter
    - June 15 for consideration for summer term
- Payment request rosters are sent to schools each term after the application deadline has passed
ISAC Loan Repayment Programs

- These 2017-18 applications are still available at isac.org
  - Illinois Teachers & Child Care Providers Loan Repayment
    - Must first qualify for Federal Stafford Loan Cancellation for Teachers Program
    - Must complete teaching requirement at an Illinois school
    - ISAC application must be submitted to ISAC within six months of the date on the Notice of Federal Teacher Loan Forgiveness eligibility
  - Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program
2017-18 Close Out

- All submissions of 2017-18 payment requests, including initial claims and supplemental claims, for ISAC-administered gift assistance programs must be received on or before July 1, 2018
  - Adjustments to cancel or reduce MAP awards will be accepted after this date
- Specific details regarding close-out of 2017-18 programs will be provided via e-Messages as we move closer to July 1
- May 30th webinar will also focus on 2017-18 close-out as well
2018-19 Applications

- Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program application is currently only available in a paper-based format at isac.org
  - Applicants should download and print the PDF version and submit the completed application to ISAC
- Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver application is still currently available at isac.org
- We anticipate that applications for the 2018-19 Illinois National Guard Grant Program and the Grant Programs for Dependents of Police, Fire, and Correctional Officers will be available by the end of May
GAP Access Has Been Redesigned

- GAP Access UX enhancements will include:
  - An updated color scheme for extended use (easier on the eyes!)
  - Improved navigation and menus
  - Simplification of global navigation, such as program tabs
  - Easy access to primary controls on a page using persistent primary control buttons
  - Improved performance due to optimized loading of resources
  - An easier learning curve due to consistency in controls and location of fields

- Testing phase is nearly complete
- Will be putting enhancements into production soon
New look for GAP Access
**GAP Access Login**

**Login is Successful**

Welcome, Kimberly Eck.

Last Login: 2018-04-19 15:04:28.023

---

**User Login: Successful**

Welcome, Kimberly Eck.


---

**Programs**

- MAP
- ING
- IVG
- State Scholar Program
- FAFSA Initiative
- FAFSA Upload
Welcome to the Internet application for processing the Monetary Award Program (MAP).

Academic Year

2017-2018

View Student List

Student Lookup

SSN

Go
## MAP 2017-2018: Student List Eligibility: View

**UNIVERSITY 001**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Pay MAP</th>
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**GAP Access**

**UNIVERSITY 001**

**Person** | **School** | **Administration** | **Programs** | **Program Review**

**MAP 2017-2018: Student List Eligibility: View**

Select School and MAP Code

**UNIVERSITY 001**

- Home
- Student
- Payment
- Budget
- Reports
- File Extractions

Entries displayed: 100

- View Report
- Excel Report
- Save Selected
### MAP 2017-2018: Student Detail: Payment

**UNIVERSITY 001**

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<th>Original SSN</th>
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<td>Request</td>
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**Current SSN**: 

**Transaction / Name ID**: 01 AA

**Original SSN**: AA

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<tr>
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<td>Enrollment Hours</td>
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**Transaction / Name ID**: 01 AA

**Name ID**: AA
## ING 2017-2018: Student List Eligibility: View

### College 001

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### ING 2017-2018: Student Detail: Benefits

**College 001**

**Current SSN**

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**Result Code**

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**Eligible Until**

| Eligible On or After |
|----------------------|----------|

**Programs**

- Home
- Certification
- Student
- Benefits
- Budget
- Reports
- File Extractions

**Program Review**
### IVG 2017-2018: Student Benefit List: View

**Select School and IVG Code:**

**COLLEGE 001**

| # | Sel | Req Sel | Term Number | Current SSN | Last Name | First Name | IVG Number | IVG Code | Request Code | Enrollment Hours | In Dist Tuition | Out of Dist Tuition | Requested Amount | Post 9/11 GI Bill | GI Bill Benefit Amount | Adjusted Amount | Units Used | Result Code | Expanded Result |
|---|-----|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 1 | $   |        | 1-Fall      |             |           |            |             |           |             |                  |                |                |                   |                |                   |                   |             |           |             |                |
| 2 | $   |        | 2-Spring    |             |           |            |             |           |             |                  |                |                |                   |                |                   |                   |             |           |             |                |
## IVG 2017-2018: Student Detail: Benefits

**College: 001**

**Current SSN**

**IVG Number**

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**Activity Date**

**Status**
Clearing cookies and cache in your browser before launching redesigned GAP Access may help improve your user experience.
More Spring Things to Come …

- Annual budget data collection process for MAP, ING and IVG
  - Will begin shortly after the release of redesigned GAP Access
- MAP advising data collection via GAP Access
  - Advising/support program changes/additions for MAP recipients
    - Only changes/additions/updates since the last reporting period will need to be provided
  - Course completion rates
    - Schools will only need to provide completed/attempted hours
    - Graduation and retention rates will be obtained from the National Student Clearinghouse
- Initial Certification process for 2018-19 applicants for MTI and GAS will begin soon in My Zone
- Financial aid and admission information for inclusion in the *Handbook of Illinois Postsecondary Institutions* (via automated online survey)
  - Process being improved by adding more drop down menus and simplifying the questions
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

Create an ISAC Student Portal profile and access information about your ISAC programs. If you are a member of the Illinois National Guard, the Portal is where you complete, submit and check on the status of your application, keep track of the eligibility units you have received and print a copy of your most recent Notice of Eligibility.

If you have received a Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant(s), you can track the number of MAP Paid Credit Hours (MPCH) you have used.

The Student Portal can also help you with college and scholarship searches, financial aid planning, money management and career and job searches.
The ISAC Student Portal offers free applications and tools to help students and families:

- Make college choices
- Navigate the financial aid process
- Learn about careers
- Manage their money

It provides interactive tools such as

- A College Checklist
- Monetary Award Program (MAP) Estimator
- Scholarship searches
- MAP Credit Hours Display
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 your area!
TOOLBOX
Handy tools to help you throughout the college application process.

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 co-op 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.

MAP Estimator
Going to college in Illinois? Find out if you can get a MAP grant.
ISAC PROGRAMS
Apply for and check the status of Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) financial aid programs.

Monetary Award Program
MAP
Check your Paid Credit Hours

Illinois National Guard Grant
ING
Apply here

Illinois National Guard Grant
ING
Check your status

Illinois Veteran Grant
IVG
Apply here

Illinois Veteran Grant
IVG
Status check coming soon
Highlights from the ILASFAA Conference

- Celebrating the Superhero in All of Us …
- Please complete the conference evaluation if you attended and give us your feedback
ISAC 60th Anniversary Timeline

JULY 1957

The Illinois State Scholarship Commission is created.

Legislation is passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by Governor William Stratton to create the Illinois State Scholarship Commission (ISSC). The purpose of the new agency is to increase access to college for Illinois students by offering scholarships and grants. At the time, only seven people work at ISSC.
FAFSA Volume Changes 2012-2013 to 2017-2018 (Est.)

Academic Years

*FY18 numbers are estimates; increases are due to MAP formula changes
**Number of MAP recipients depends on appropriation levels
MAP-Eligible Applicants 2012-2013 to 2017–2018 (Est.) Academic Years

- 23% overall decrease
- 32% decrease
- 11% decrease

*FY18 numbers are estimates; increases are due to MAP formula changes
MAP Student vs. IPEDS Graduation Rates: 2008/2016

- MAP and IPEDS graduation rates at all but 2 public universities rose between 2008 and 2016.
- The achievement gap was reduced or eliminated at 8 public universities.

Achievement Gap: achievement gap defined as the difference between the MAP recipient 6-year graduation rate and the Federal IPEDS 6-year school graduation rate.
MAP Student vs. IPEDS Graduation Rates: 2008/2016

Graduation rates have risen for the community colleges with the most MAP recipients. In 2008, only four schools had no gap in graduation rates; by 2016 no school had a gap.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
Highlights of Governor’s FY19 Budget Proposal for Higher Ed

- IVG/ING reimbursement for schools ($31m)
- Small boost for PFC Dependents ($1.23m)
- Flat funding for MAP ($401m), Teacher Programs, Loan Repayment Programs, Outreach
- Institutions funded at approx. FY18 levels
- Shift of pension costs to schools (little GA support)
Higher Ed Legislative Working Group

- Three legislators from each caucus
- Focusing on Illinois schools and how they can “attract, retain, and graduate Illinois students”
Bills Approved by Committees
Awaiting vote by full House or Senate

- **SB 3138**: ISAC initiative to exempt applicant names from FOIA release
- **HB 4467**: extend PFC Dependents’ Grant to kids born after a disability occurs
- **HB 5122/SB 2846**: T&F waiver for DCFS wards at public institutions
Bills Approved by Committees
Awaiting vote by full House or Senate (Continued)

- **SB 2559**: schools provide annual letters to students re. cumulative loan debt
- **HB 5109**: loan repayment assistance for behavioral health workers
- **SB 2439**: protects professional licenses of defaulted borrowers from suspension
Bills Not Advanced by Committees

- **SB 2597**: consolidation of IBHE, ICCB, ISAC
- **SB 3136**: new Bd of Regents, strategic plan
- **HB 4103/SB 2234**: “Centers of Excellence,” university common app, study of merit aid
- **SB 3567**: 4-year MAP guarantee
HB 4503: Bill to provide access to aid (other than MAP) for undocumented Illinois students was filed but never assigned to a committee. Will it be considered later?
State Legislative Updates at isac.org

ISAC State Legislative Update

Katharine Gricevich
Director of Government Relations
April 5, 2018

As the General Assembly prepares for the second half of its 2018 spring legislative session, echoes of the extended budget impasse continue to reverberate within higher education.

ISAC Contact:
Katharine Gricevich, Government Relations
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Bills and Schedules at General Assembly Website -- ilga.gov
ILASFAA Advocacy Day in Springfield
Tuesday, May 8th

For more information, contact Bobbi Smith at RJ-Smith3@wiu.edu
Future ISAC Training Opportunities

- Monthly Webinars
  - Last Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m.
    - May 30: ISAC Update and Year-End Close-Out Reminders
    - June 27: ISAC Update and a Review of ISAC’s Military Programs

- Financial Aid 101 & 201 Workshops
  - Next round will be offered in September
    - Upstate and downstate locations

- Other suggestions/requests? …
  - Send to kimberly.eck@illinois.gov
ISAC Contact Information

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