



www.isac.org

2023-2024

Alternative Application for
Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet
DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET



This worksheet provides a preview of the questions you will be asked while completing the online Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application), available at www.isac.org. This worksheet does not include all Alternative Application questions and is only intended as a resource to help you prepare to complete the application and assist with gathering all the documents you will need to complete the application online. **This worksheet should not be mailed to ISAC.**

The Alternative Application is intended for students who meet specific eligibility criteria in the Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act, providing a pathway for undocumented students who are ineligible for federal financial aid to apply for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant. The full application, along with more information about the RISE Act and application instructions can be found at www.isac.org.

Before beginning the online application process, you will be presented with pre-screening questions to help determine if you are eligible to complete the Alternative Application or if you should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). Data collected in the pre-screening questions is retained by ISAC and is not shared with the colleges.

Pre-screening Questions

- *Are you a U.S. citizen (U.S. national) or someone who meets the definition of an eligible noncitizen*?*
- *To be eligible to apply for a MAP grant through the Alternative Application, you must meet **all** of the following:*
 - *You resided with your parent or guardian while attending a public or private high school in Illinois;*
 - *You graduated from a public or private high school, or received the equivalent of a high school diploma, in Illinois;*
 - *As of the date you graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma, you had attended school in Illinois for at least three (3) years;*
 - *By signing the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid you will be providing an affidavit stating that you will become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity you are eligible to do so; and*
 - *You have not established a residence outside of Illinois.*

Do you meet all of the above criteria?

- *Have you already filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) for the 2023-2024 academic year?*

* Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen (and should complete the FAFSA®) if any of the descriptions below apply to you:

- U.S. permanent resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551);
- Conditional permanent resident (I-551C);
- The holder of an Arrival/Departure Form (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Indefinite Parolee," "Humanitarian Parole," or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant;"
- Hold a T nonimmigrant status ("T-Visa") (for victims of human trafficking) or your parent holds a T-1 nonimmigrant status
- A "battered immigrant-qualified alien" who is a victim of abuse by your citizen or permanent resident spouse, or you are the child of a person designated as such under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

U.S. citizens or eligible federal noncitizens (as described above) who are eligible to file the FAFSA® application should do so at studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Students should not complete both an Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid and a FAFSA®.

Documentation needed to complete the 2023-2024 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid:

- 2021 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned in 2021
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable).

If you or your family have unusual circumstances that might affect your financial situation, such as loss of employment, complete the Alternative Application to the extent you can and consult with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend.

2023-2024 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Worksheet

STUDENT INFORMATION

Do not mail this worksheet. Use it only to collect information before completing the Alternative Application online at www.isac.org. You can add up to 10 colleges on the online Alternative Application. The colleges you list will receive your information on the next business day after your application is submitted. The Alternative Application is only for colleges located in

Student's Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Provide your full legal name. If your name has a suffix, such as Jr. or III, include a space between your last name and suffix.

In Section 1 of the application, you will also be asked to provide your permanent mailing address, date of birth, driver's license number (if you have one) and state of residence.

Student Marital Status (check one of the following):

- I am single
 I am married/remarried
 I am separated
 I am divorced or widowed

You will be asked to provide information about your spouse if you are married or remarried.

E-mail Address: _____

To begin the online application process, you will need your own, individual e-mail address to create a Student Profile. You are encouraged to use a personal e-mail address rather than a school provided e-mail address that could potentially change if you change schools. Your Student Profile e-mail address will be automatically pre-populated in Section 1 of the application. The e-mail address submitted on the application is the e-mail address that ISAC will send your Personal Identification Number (PIN) to, which you will need to electronically sign your application. Please note that if you update the e-mail address on the application, it will not automatically update on your Student Profile. You will still need to use the Student Profile e-mail address to log back into the application should you need to return to make updates or corrections. Applicants are encouraged to use the same e-mail address for the Student Profile and on the application.

Education Background

- Highest school completed by Parent 1:**
 Middle school/Jr. high
 High school
 College or beyond
 Other/unknown
Highest school completed by Parent 2:
 Middle school/Jr. high
 High school
 College or beyond
 Other/unknown

(These questions about your parents' education are asked because some financial aid is offered based on the level of schooling your parents completed; however, this does not apply to the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant.)

What will your high school completion status be when you (the student) begin college in the 2023-2024 school year?

- Diploma from an Illinois high school
 GED from an Illinois Community CollegeBoard-approved provider
 Home Schooled in Illinois
 None of the above

STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS -- Check any that apply to you

If you can check any of the following, you will not have to provide parental information. If you cannot check any of the following, you are considered a dependent student for application purposes and you will need to provide parental information.

<input type="radio"/> I was born before January 1, 2000.	<input type="radio"/> I am married.	<input type="radio"/> In 2023-24, I will be working on a master's or doctorate program (e.g. MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate).
<input type="radio"/> I am serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.	<input type="radio"/> I am a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.	<input type="radio"/> I now have or will have children for whom I will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.
<input type="radio"/> Since I turned age 13, both of my parents were deceased.	<input type="radio"/> I was in foster care since turning age 13.	<input type="radio"/> I have dependents (other than children or my spouse) who live with me and I provide more than half of their support).
<input type="radio"/> I was a dependent or ward of the court since turning age 13.	<input type="radio"/> I am currently or I was an emancipated minor.	<input type="radio"/> I am currently or I was in legal guardianship. <input type="radio"/> I am homeless or I am at risk of being homeless.

STUDENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Section 2 on the Application)

You will need your 2021 tax returns, W-2 forms, or other 2021 income information to complete the Alternative Application.

For 2021, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?

I have already completed my tax return
 I will file, but have not yet completed my tax return
 I am not going to file a 2021 income tax return

What was your (and spouse's) adjusted gross income for 2021?

Skip this question if you or your spouse did not file taxes. Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 11.

\$

The following questions ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on IRS Form 1040 -- line 1 + Schedule 1-- lines 3 + 6 + Schedule K-1 (IRS Form 1065) —Box 14 (Code A). If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

How much did you earn from working in 2021? \$

Check here if you are a dislocated worker

How much did your spouse earn from working in 2021? \$

Check here if your spouse is a dislocated worker

In 2021 or 2022, did anyone in your household receive: (Check all that apply.)

Medicaid
 Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Did you (and/or your spouse) have any of the following items in 2021?

Check all that apply. Once online, you will be asked to report amounts you (and/or your spouse) have paid or received.

<p>Additional Financial Information</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit <input type="radio"/> Child support paid <input type="radio"/> Taxable earnings from work-study, assistantships or fellowships <input type="radio"/> Taxable grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS as income <input type="radio"/> Combat pay or special combat pay <input type="radio"/> Cooperative education program earnings </p>	<p>Untaxed Income</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans <input type="radio"/> Child support received <input type="radio"/> IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and Keogh <input type="radio"/> Tax exempt interest income <input type="radio"/> Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions </p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others <input type="radio"/> Veterans noneducation benefits <input type="radio"/> Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation or disability benefits <input type="radio"/> Money received or paid on your behalf </p>
--	---	---

Student Asset Questions:

- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the total current balance of your cash, savings and checking accounts? \$
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your investments, including real estate? Don't include the home in which you live. Net worth means current value minus debt owed. \$
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your current businesses and/or investment farms? Don't include farms or family businesses with 100 or fewer full-time or full- \$

Do not mail this worksheet. Go to www.isac.org to complete and submit your application.

You can also talk with your college's financial aid office about other types of financial aid that may be available.

PARENT INFORMATION

Who is considered a parent? "Parent" refers to a biological or adoptive parent. Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, siblings, and uncles or aunts are not considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted you. In case of divorce or separation, give information about the parent you lived with most in the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give information about the parent who provided you the most financial support during the last 12 months or during the most recent year you received support. If your divorced or widowed parent has remarried, also provide information about your stepparent.

Providing Parent 1 information? You will need:

- Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security number, if they have one
 - Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) name
 - Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth
- Check here if Parent 1 is a dislocated worker

Providing Parent 2 information? You will need:

- Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security number, if they have one
 - Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) name
 - Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth
- Check here if Parent 2 is a dislocated worker

E-mail Address: _____

If you are a dependent student, your parent will need to provide an e-mail address on the application, and it cannot be the same e-mail address as the student's e-mail address. The parent e-mail address submitted on the application is the e-mail address to which ISAC will send the parent's Personal Identification Number (PIN), which the parent will need to electronically sign the application.

For 2021, have your parents completed an IRS income tax return or another tax return?

- My parents have already completed a 2021 tax return
- My parents will file, but have not yet completed a 2021 tax return
- My parents are not going to file an income tax return

What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2021?

Skip this question if your parents did not file taxes. Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—Line 11

\$

The following questions ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on IRS Form 1040-line 1 + Schedule 1-lines 3 + 6 + Schedule K-1 (IRS Form 1065)-Box 14 (Code A). If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

How much did Parent 1 earn from working in 2021?

\$

How much did Parent 2 earn from working in 2021?

\$

Parent's Asset Questions:

- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is your parents' total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts?
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your parents' investments, including real estate? Don't include the home in which your parents live. Net worth means current value minus debt owed.
- As of the date you complete the Alternative Application, what is the net worth of your parents' current businesses and/or investment farms? Don't include farms or family businesses with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees.

\$

\$

\$

Additional Financial Information

- American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit
- Child support paid
- Taxable earnings from work-study, assistantships or fellowships
- Taxable grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS as income
- Combat pay or special combat pay
- Cooperative education program earnings

Untaxed Income

- Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans
- Child support received
- IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and Keogh
- Tax exempt interest income
- Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions

- Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others
- Veterans noneducation benefits
- Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation or disability benefits
- Money received or paid on your behalf

Do not mail this worksheet. Go to www.isac.org to complete and submit your application.

You can also talk with your college's financial aid office about other types of financial aid that may be available.

SIGNING THE ONLINE APPLICATION

Following are examples of the certification statements that will be presented to you and to your parent (if you are a dependent student) in the online application process prior to submitting the application. You will each need the four-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) that ISAC will send to the e-mail address you provide on the application to electronically sign the application. The student and the parent must have separate e-mail addresses.

Student Certification and Affidavit Statement

By signing this application electronically using my username and password and/or any other credential, I certify that I have read the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid requirements and that I meet the requirements of the Eligibility Status criteria as stated, making me eligible to complete this Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

I also understand that I am applying to be considered for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant and that my eligibility will be determined based on additional factors, including, but not limited to, my financial condition, my Illinois residency and the availability of funds appropriated by the State.

If I am not a U.S. Citizen (U.S. National) or eligible noncitizen as defined in federal law, I hereby swear on oath that I will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity I am eligible to do so.

I further certify that I am the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password and/or any other credential to anyone else.

I understand that any person who, by means of any false statement, willful misrepresentation, or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to which the person is not entitled, will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120).

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

Parent Certification Statement

By signing and submitting this signature page, I agree, if asked, to provide documentation that verifies the accuracy of the completed Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, a copy of my U.S. or State income tax form or pay stubs.

I understand that any person who, by means of false statement, willful misrepresentation or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid (from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission) to which the person is not entitled will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120).

I certify to the best of my knowledge all information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

After you complete this worksheet, go online to www.isac.org and complete the Alternative Application.

Do not mail this worksheet. After your Alternative Application has been processed, your college will receive your information and determine your eligibility. If you need to make corrections or updates to your Alternative Application, you may login as a Returning Applicant and access your Alternative Application. If you make a change to your data, you will need to re-sign the Application, and if parental data is changed, the parent will need to re-sign the Application as well.

DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET