



Apply now for the 2026-27 Grant Program for Exonerees and Their Dependents

Funding to help eligible students pay for their education

What does the grant cover?

- Tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduate or graduate study at Illinois public universities and community colleges, and/or
- Costs associated with obtaining a high school equivalency certificate (some might know this as a GED) and/or an official transcript of high school equivalency test scores.

Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must be Illinois residents who either received a pardon from the Governor (on the grounds of innocence of the crime for which they were imprisoned) or received a certificate of innocence from a circuit court. Education benefits may be shared with qualifying dependents.

If you think you might be eligible—apply!

Find out more

Information about the program, along with an application, can be found at www.isac.org/exoneree-grant.

Note: If you are eligible for the grant and already paid costs that would be covered by it, you may be eligible for reimbursement. Details about reimbursement are available at www.isac.org/exoneree-grant. For students who apply now and are eligible, the grant will pay full tuition and fees at Illinois public universities and community colleges for the 2026-27 school year. Don't delay in completing the 2026-27 application!

Questions? Contact ISAC's Student Engagement and Support Services at **1-800-899-ISAC (4722), Option 3**, or email isac.studentservices@illinois.gov.



The Illinois Student Assistance Commission is the state's college access and financial aid agency.

isac.org