


**General  
Information**





# ISAC-ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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## OFFICE LOCATIONS AND HOURS

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<b>Springfield</b> 500 W. Monroe, 3rd Floor Springfield, IL 62704-1876 217.782.2577 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	<b>Deerfield</b> 1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, IL 60015-5209 800.899.ISAC (4722) 847.948.8500 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Chicago</b> James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph St., Suite 3-200 Chicago, IL 60601-3293 312.793.3745 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
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800.899.ISAC (4722) or [collegeillinois.org](http://collegeillinois.org)

## ISAC-ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

(This represents only a partial listing of ISAC Programs. Refer to [collegeillinois.org](http://collegeillinois.org) for complete information. The number of grants made through programs administered by ISAC, as well as the individual dollar amount awarded, are subject to sufficient annual appropriations by the Illinois General Assembly and the Governor.)

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**Program:** Monetary Award Program  
**Contact:** Financial aid administrator or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private, two- and four-year colleges, universities, hospital schools, and certain other degree-granting institutions

**Description of Program:** MAP grants cover tuition and mandatory fees with a maximum award determined each year. Eligibility for MAP is based on financial need. Applicants must file the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) to have eligibility determined. Funding for the MAP grant is limited; to ensure full-year consideration for an award, students should apply early.

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**Program:** Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant  
**Contact:** Local National Guard unit, financial aid administrator, or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Illinois public two- and four-year colleges

**Description of Program:** This grant is available to active status enlistees and officers in the Illinois Army and Air National Guard who have served at least one year. The award pays tuition and certain fees for the equivalent of four academic years of full-time undergraduate or graduate study. Recipients are not required to enroll for a specific number of credit hours each term, but recipients may be required to repay the funds if their service obligation is not fulfilled. Eligibility for this grant is not based on financial need.

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**Program:** Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)  
**Contact:** Local office of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, financial aid administrator, or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Illinois public two- and four-year colleges and universities

**Description of Program:** The IVG Program provides payment of tuition and mandatory fees to qualified Illinois veterans or military service members (including members of the Illinois Reserve or Illinois National Guard) with at least one year of federal active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces\* and whose service was characterized as honorable. This grant can be used for a period equal to four academic years of full-time enrollment for undergraduate or graduate study. Eligible veterans must have been residents of Illinois six months prior to entering the service, and must have returned to Illinois to reside within six months after separation from the service. Recipients are not required to enroll for a minimum number of credit hours each term.

\*Includes veterans who were assigned to active duty in a foreign country at a time of hostilities in that country, regardless of length of service.

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**Program:** Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program  
**Contact:** Postsecondary institutions approved by the U.S. Department of Education

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois high schools, offices of Illinois District and Regional Superintendents of Education, or ISAC

**Description of Program:** The Byrd Scholarship is a federal program which provides annual awards of up to \$1,500\*, for a maximum of four academic years, to academically exceptional high school graduates who show promise of continued academic excellence. Byrd Scholars must become high school graduates in the same year in which eligibility is determined and must demonstrate academic achievement through test scores and high school transcripts. Recipients must also be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in the academic year immediately following high school graduation as full-time undergraduate students in a postsecondary institution approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

\*Awarding of scholarships is subject to federal funding.

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## ISAC-ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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**Program:** Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator, college multi-cultural affairs office, or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private, two- and four-year colleges, universities, and certain other degree-granting institutions

**Description of Program:** This scholarship provides up to \$5,000 per year to assist individuals of African American/Black, Hispanic American, Asian American, or Native American origin who plan to become teachers at the preschool, elementary, or secondary level. The scholarship is applicable only toward tuition and fees, and room and board or commuter allowances. Recipients must be enrolled at least half time as an undergraduate student and may receive up to 8 semesters/12 quarters of scholarship assistance. They must sign a teaching commitment to teach one year for each year assistance is received at an Illinois public, private, or parochial preschool, elementary, or secondary school where enrollment consists of at least 30 percent minority students. If the teaching commitment is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan and the student must repay the entire award amount received, plus interest and collection costs.

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**Program:** Illinois Future Teacher Corps Program\*

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private two- and four-year colleges, universities, and certain other degree-granting institutions

**Description of Program:** Illinois Future Teacher Corps Program scholarships are awarded to academically talented students with a priority given to those planning to teach in a teacher discipline and/or in a hard-to-staff school and to minority students. The teaching commitment must be fulfilled in an Illinois preschool, elementary or secondary school. The scholarship is applicable only toward tuition and fees, and room and board charges up to \$15,000 per year for up to 4 semesters/6 quarters of scholarship assistance. Recipients must enroll at least half time as a junior or above and fulfill a teaching commitment to teach for 5 years or repay the entire award amount received, plus interest and collection costs.

\*Funding for the Illinois Future Teacher Corps is being gradually phased over to the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois program. Academic year 2011-12 is the final year of IFTC funding.

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**Program:** Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver Program

**Contact:** Offices of Illinois Regional Superintendents of Education, Illinois legislative and federal congressional offices, eligible public universities, or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Participating Illinois public four-year universities

**Description of Program:** The Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver Program encourages current teachers and academically talented students to pursue careers in any area of special education as public, private, or parochial elementary or secondary school teachers in Illinois. Recipients must agree to take courses to prepare for teaching in a special education discipline and be undergraduate or graduate students seeking initial certification in any area of Special Education. Students must be ranked in the upper half of their Illinois high school graduating class. ACT or SAT test scores may also be factors in determining eligibility. The waiver exempts recipients from paying tuition and mandatory fees at eligible institutions for up to four calendar years. There is no minimum enrollment requirement.

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## ISAC-ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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**Program:** Grant Programs for Dependents of Police/Fire/ Correctional Officers

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator or ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private, two- and four-year colleges, universities, hospital schools, and certain other degree-granting institutions

**Description of Program:** These grants provide payment toward tuition and mandatory fees for spouses and children of Illinois police/fire/correctional officers killed or at least 90 percent disabled in the line of duty. Recipients must be enrolled on at least a half-time basis and may receive up to 8 semesters/12 quarters of payment for undergraduate or graduate study.

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**Program:** Student-to-Student (STS) Grant Program

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator

**Eligible Schools:** Participating Illinois public two- and four-year colleges and universities

**Description of Program:** This program, for undergraduate students, is one in which voluntary student contributions are matched, dollar-for-dollar, by ISAC and paid to participating institutions. Need-based grants are then made available to needy students enrolled on at least a half-time basis through procedures established by the financial aid office and the student government at each institution.

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**Program:** Bonus Incentive Grant (BIG)

**Contact:** ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private two- and four-year colleges, universities and hospital schools

**Description of Program:** Bonus Incentive Grants are non-need based grants available to holders of Illinois College Savings Bonds, if the bond proceeds are used to pay educational expenses at an eligible institution. Grant amounts range from \$40 to \$440 (per bond), depending on the maturity of the bond.

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**Program:** *College Illinois*<sup>®</sup> Prepaid Tuition Program

**Contact:** ISAC

**Eligible Schools:** Approved Illinois public and private two- and four-year colleges, universities, hospital schools, and certain other degree-granting institutions, as well as all non-proprietary out-of-state postsecondary institutions.

**Description of Program:** ISAC's prepaid tuition program allows families to purchase contracts which lock in future college tuition and fee costs now for attendance at either Illinois public universities or community colleges. The program also allows benefits to be used at private and out-of-state schools, although full payment of tuition and fees at those schools is not guaranteed. The contract may be payable in a lump sum or purchased in term increments with monthly or annual payment options.

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# STATE-SPONSORED/ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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**Program:** Allied Health Care Professional Scholarship Program\*

**Contact:** Illinois Dept. of Public Health, Center for Rural Health  
217.782.1624  
TTY 800.547.0466

**Eligible School:** Illinois schools accredited in applicable field of study

**Description of Program:** Scholarships of \$7,500, for up to two years, are available to students studying to be nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and certified nurse midwives. Recipients must fulfill an obligation to practice full time in a designated shortage area as an allied health care professional for one year for each year of scholarship funding received. Recipients who do not fulfill their obligation must reimburse the state three times the total amount of the scholarship received for each unfulfilled year of the obligation, plus 7 percent interest per year on that amount.

\* Not funded for 2011-12 academic year

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**Program:** Division of Rehabilitation Services Education Benefits

**Contact:** Illinois Dept. of Human Services/Division of Rehabilitation Services (DHS/DRS)  
800.843.6154

**Eligible School:** Accredited colleges, universities, and technical schools in Illinois

**Description of Program:** The program provides financial assistance for postsecondary education to eligible individuals who have physical or mental disabilities and who have been approved for vocational training by DHS/DRS. Financial need is a factor.

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**Program:** General Assembly Scholarships

**Contact:** Illinois General Assembly member

**Eligible School:** Four-year public colleges and universities in Illinois

**Description of Program:** Eligibility criteria is set by each General Assembly member for residents of their legislative district. This scholarship provides payment of tuition only at Illinois state-supported four-year colleges and universities.

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**Program:** Medical Student Scholarship Program\*

**Contact:** Illinois Dept. of Public Health, Center for Rural Health  
217.782.1624

**Eligible School:** Allopathic and osteopathic medical schools in Illinois

**Description of Program:** This program provides payment of tuition, mandatory fees, and a stipend of \$950 per month to qualified Illinois students enrolled at approved medical schools in Illinois. The recipient repays the scholarship by completing graduate training in one of the primary care specialties and by practicing in areas of Illinois determined by IDPH to be physician shortage areas, for one year for each year of scholarship assistance received through this program. Financial need is a factor. Application deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>, for each upcoming academic year.

\* Not funded for 2011-12 academic year

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## STATE-SPONSORED/ADMINISTERED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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**Program:** MIA/POW Scholarship

**Contact:** Illinois Dept. of Veterans' Affairs  
217.782.3564

**Eligible School:** Public colleges and universities in Illinois

**Description of Program:** This scholarship, which is not based on financial need, provides payment of tuition and certain fees for dependents of veterans or service persons who were Illinois residents at the time they entered active duty and have been declared prisoners of war, are missing in action, died as the result of a service connected disability, or are permanently (100%) disabled from service connected causes as recognized by the U. S. Department of Veterans' Affairs or U.S. Department of Defense.

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**Program:** Nursing Education Scholarship Program

**Contact:** Illinois Dept. of Public Health, Center for Rural Health  
217.782.1624

**Eligible School:** Illinois schools offering nursing programs accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN) or approved by the Illinois Dept. of Professional Regulation

**Description of Program:** Scholarships are awarded to qualified students, with the greatest financial need, pursuing a certificate in practical nursing, an associate degree in nursing, a hospital-based diploma in nursing, or a baccalaureate degree in nursing (funding varies from one to four years). Within 6 months of graduating, recipients must begin full- or part-time employment as a licensed practical or registered professional nurse in Illinois for a period equivalent to the educational time supported by the scholarship. Students who terminate studies or fail to become licensed or provide Illinois nursing employment documentation must repay the full scholarship amount, with 7 percent interest per year on the unpaid balance. The application cycle begins March 1<sup>st</sup> and ends May 31<sup>st</sup> prior to the beginning of the academic year for which the student is applying for the scholarship.

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**Program:** Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois (Illinois Scholars Program)

**Contact:** Golden Apple Foundation  
312.407.0433, ext. 118

**Eligible School:** Illinois participating public or private universities

**Description of Program:** Program recruits and prepares bright and talented high school graduates who represent a rich ethnic diversity for successful teaching careers in high need schools throughout Illinois and provides scholarships to students pursuing teaching degrees.

In exchange for successful completion of undergraduate college and a commitment to teach for five years in an Illinois school of need, scholars receive financial assistance for four years to attend one of the 53 public and private universities across the state and take part in the summer programs that include teaching internships and enhanced teacher preparation.

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**Program:** Illinois Dollars for Scholars

**Contact:** Applicants should contact their local chapter's officials. Local chapters can be located at [illinoisdollarsforscholars.org/chapter\\_find.php](http://illinoisdollarsforscholars.org/chapter_find.php)

**Description of Program:** National network of community-based scholarship foundations. A program of Scholarship America, the national program provides more than 45 years of experience and resources to the Illinois Dollars for Scholars region and its local chapter affiliates.

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# MAJOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

NOTE: Federal financial aid programs can be used at approved colleges, universities, hospital schools, and proprietary schools throughout the United States and in some foreign countries.

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**Program:** William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program

**Contact:** U.S. Department of Education at [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov) or 800.4FEDAID (433.3243) or financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** Direct loans are low-interest loans for eligible students (Stafford loans) and parents (PLUS loans) to help cover the cost of higher education at a four-year college or university, community college or technical school. Eligible students and parents borrow directly from the U.S. Department of Education at participating schools.

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**Program:** Federal Pell Grant Program

**Contact:** U.S. Department of Education at [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov) or 800.4FEDAID (433.3243) or financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** This federal grant can be used toward the educational expenses of students. The grants are based upon the financial need of the applicant and/or the applicant's family. This grant can be used for full-, half-, and less-than-half-time undergraduate study. The FAFSA must be filed for eligibility to be determined.

\*The maximum award amount is adjusted annually, based on federal funding. For the 2009-10 academic year, the award maximum is \$5,350.

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**Program:** Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** This federal grant program provides up to \$4,000 per year for undergraduate students who have exceptional financial need. Sponsored by the federal government, this program is administered by the financial aid office of participating colleges and universities. Applicants must file the FAFSA and any other required institutional documentation.

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**Program:** Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG)

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** This need-based grant can help students pay for any educational expenses, such as tuition, fees, room and board, and/or living expenses. The ACG is available to undergraduate students who are Pell Grant recipients and who are enrolled full-time at a two-year or four-year degree granting institution in their first and second year of college. The maximum grant amount is up to \$750 for first-year students and up to \$1,300 for second-year students.

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**Program:** Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** Under this federal need-based program, students may work on or off campus in approved nonprofit positions to earn money to help pay educational expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student's course of study. Applicants must file the FAFSA and any other required institutional documentation.

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## MAJOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

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**Program:** Federal Perkins Loan Program

**Contact:** Financial aid administrator

**Brief Description of Program:** This federal campus-based loan program provides students with up to \$4,000 per academic year for undergraduate study, and up to \$6,000 per academic year for graduate study. These loans must be repaid beginning nine months after the student graduates or drops below half-time status, with a repayment period of ten years. The interest rate on this loan is currently 5 percent. Applicants must file the FAFSA and any other required institutional documentation.

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**Program:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Education Programs

**Contact:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Education

Customer Service Office

888.442.4551 or va.gov

**Brief Description of Program:** There is a wide range of benefits available to those who have served in the Armed Forces and their dependents. Among the federal educational programs for veterans are the Post-Vietnam Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP), Montgomery G.I. Bill-Active Duty Program, Montgomery G.I. Bill-Selected Reserve Program, Post 9/11 GI Bill, Education Loan Program, and the Vocational Rehabilitation for Service-Disabled Veterans Program. The benefits are available to eligible individuals without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or religion. The local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs office (found under United States Government in the local telephone directory) can be contacted for specific details.

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**Program:** Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance Program (DEA)

**Contact:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Education

Customer Service Office

888.442.4551 or va.gov

**Brief Description of Program:** DEA provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. Benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeships and on-the-job training.

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# THE CONTACT GUIDE

## Contacts

## Concerning

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### ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION (ISAC)

**collegeillinois.org**

ISAC Call Center Representative  
1755 Lake Cook Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209  
800.899.ISAC (4722)  
isac.studentservies@isac.illinois.gov

To check the status of applications for scholarships, grants, or loans; to obtain information about ISAC-administered programs and services; to request materials published by ISAC; to obtain information about *College Illinois*<sup>®</sup> or to obtain information about College Awareness and Preparation (CAP) activities

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### ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING (IACAC)

**iacac.org**

**President:** Laura Docherty  
Fenwick High School  
505 W. Washington Blvd, Oak Park, IL 60302-4095 ♦ 708.386.0127

To request general information about the IACAC organization or to obtain information pertaining to policies and practices of the admission profession

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### ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS (ILASFAA), INC.

**ilasfaa.org**

**President:** Jana Albrecht  
Illinois State University  
231 Fell Hall, Normal, IL 61790-2320 ♦ 309.438.2320

To request general information about the ILASFAA organization; to obtain updates concerning major changes in financial aid guidelines; and for high school guidance counselors who would like to be paired with a financial aid administrator as a resource

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### ACT

**act.org**

ACT – Midwest Region  
300 Knightsbridge Parkway, Suite 300  
Lincolnshire, IL 60069 ♦ 847.634.2560

To request ACT assessment registration materials or to receive general information about ACT programs

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### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (ED)

**ed.gov**

Federal Student Aid Information Center  
P.O. Box 84  
Washington, DC 20044 ♦ 800.4FED AID (433.3243) or 319.337.5665

To request information on federal financial aid programs or check the status of a FAFSA or Federal Pell Grant

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