

AGENDA ITEM 12.

**INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN
ISAC GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF ART - CHICAGO**

Submitted for: Action

Summary: Agency rules set forth eligibility requirements and application procedures for institutions to obtain approval to participate in the Monetary Award Program (MAP) and other ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which the institution is eligible. Applications for participation in gift assistance programs must be reviewed and approved by the Commission.

The Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago has met the criteria and submitted the required documentation for participation in MAP and certain other ISAC gift assistance programs. Once approved by the Commission, an institution is accorded eligibility to participate in the agency's gift assistance programs on a provisional basis for a minimum of five years. After the five-year period has ended, an institution may petition the Commission for full eligibility.

Action requested: That the Commission approve the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission approves the application of the Chicago campus of The Illinois Institute Of Art to participate, on a provisional basis, in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which it is eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2004-2005 academic year, with payment of awards to be subject to available funding."

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN
ISAC GIFT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF ART - CHICAGO

Agency rules set forth eligibility requirements and application procedures for institutions to obtain approval to participate in the Monetary Award Program (MAP) and other ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which the institution is eligible. Applications for participation in gift assistance programs must be reviewed and approved by the Commission.

Requirements for eligibility, in addition to general indicators of administrative capability and financial responsibility, include accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools; legal authority to operate a postsecondary institution in Illinois; and possession of a valid Program Participation Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education (ED). In addition, an institution which is operated on a for profit basis must offer degree programs which have been approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) for a minimum of three years, and must enroll a majority of its students in such programs.

The Illinois Institute of Art, a for profit institution owned by Education Management Corporation, has two local campuses, one located in Chicago and one in Schaumburg. The two campuses are administered independently, and this application to participate in ISAC gift assistance programs applies solely to the Chicago campus. In February of 2004, The Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago was granted initial accreditation by the HLC, which considers the Chicago and Schaumburg campuses to be separate and distinct institutions for accreditation purposes. The Schaumburg campus is pursuing the accreditation process of applying for regional accreditation through HLC separately, but is not accredited at this time. In 1995, the Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago received approval from IBHE to operate and to award a variety of baccalaureate and associate level degrees and today enrolls approximately 2000 students in over a dozen degree programs in fields including fashion, design, culinary arts, media arts and visual communications.

Once approved by the Commission, an institution is accorded eligibility to participate in the agency's gift assistance programs on a provisional basis for a minimum of five years. After the five-year period has ended, an institution may petition the Commission for full eligibility.

Having concluded that the institution has met the criteria and submitted the required documentation, staff is recommending that the Commission approve the application of the Chicago campus of The Illinois Institute of Art to participate, on a provisional basis, in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which it is eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2004-2005 academic year, with payment of awards to be subject to available funding.