

**AGENDA ITEM 6.**

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

**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.

Argosy University, the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg are for-profit institutions that are wholly owned subsidiaries of Education Management Corporation (EDMC). They have met the criteria and submitted the required documentation for participation in MAP and certain other ISAC-administered gift assistance programs.

**Action requested:** That the Commission approve the following resolution:

**"BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission approves the applications of Argosy University, the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg to participate in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which they are eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2006-2007 academic year, with payment of awards subject to available funding."

**ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

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

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.

Argosy University, the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg are for profit institutions that are wholly owned subsidiaries of Education Management Corporation (EDMC). EDMC recently underwent corporate reorganizations involving ownership of stock. This action required the institutions to reapply to maintain a valid Program Participation Agreement with the ED, and therefore, also submitted applications to ISAC. Argosy University and the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago reapplied for eligibility having been originally approved for participation by ISAC in September 2002 and June 2004, respectively. This is the initial application for the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg.

At the time the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago was approved in 2004, the Schaumburg location was considered separate and distinct for accreditation purposes. The school received its accreditation through HLC as of February 10, 2006, and has met the criteria and submitted the documentation for participation in MAP and certain other ISAC-administered gift assistance programs.

During the 2005-06 academic year, 40 students attending Argosy University received over \$108,000 in MAP grants and 874 students at the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago received MAP grants totaling more than \$2.5 million.

Having concluded that the institutions have met the criteria and submitted the required documentation, staff is recommending that the Commission approve the applications of Argosy University, the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg to participate in ISAC-administered gift assistance programs for which they are eligible, effective for the fall term of the 2006-2007 academic year, with payment of awards subject to available funding.