

2025-26 Monetary Award Program (MAP) Rights & Responsibilities

The information you reported on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)** for the 2025-26 academic year serves as your application for the need-based Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant through the State of Illinois. MAP grants help Illinois students pay for tuition and mandatory fees at Illinois MAP-approved colleges**. The MAP grant award amount is an estimate made by the college's financial aid office and is identified as a "State of Illinois MAP Grant (Est)" in your financial aid package. Please be aware that the number of available MAP grants is limited by funding levels approved by the Illinois General Assembly and the governor, and reductions to estimated or actual MAP grants are possible. The MAP grant is not a loan, so it does not have to be repaid. Your rights and responsibilities are outlined on this form. Use of this grant means that you understand and agree to maintain all eligibility requirements. If you fail to do so, you may no longer receive grant funds.

TRACKING MAP USAGE

Eligibility for a MAP grant is tracked by the equivalent number of semester credit hours of MAP benefits paid on your behalf. This is called MAP Paid Credit Hours. If you are attending a quarter college, your quarter credit hours will be converted to semester MAP Paid Credit Hours. Please contact your financial aid advisor if you have questions regarding the quarter college conversion. You may access a record of your MAP Paid Credit Hours through the ISAC Student Portal at <https://studentportal.isac.org/MPCH>.

Limit for Each Term: Payment for each term is made according to the equivalent number of credit hours eligible for MAP payment, with a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 15 MAP Paid Credit Hours. If you are enrolled for the equivalent of 15 or more credit hours, the number of MAP Paid Credit Hours assessed to you will be 15.

Total Limit: The maximum number of MAP Paid Credit Hours is 135.

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE SHEET AND KEEP IT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

STUDENT RIGHTS

You have a RIGHT to:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a fair and objective decision without regard to race, creed, gender, or national origin. We use the federal processing system to collect and update information so that uniform results are produced. 2. appeal an ISAC decision. You should be aware that ISAC must adhere to the rules and statutes governing the Monetary Award Program (MAP) in order to be fair and equitable to all applicants. If you feel that there are additional circumstances or documentation to be presented, a letter of appeal, signed by the applicant, should be submitted to: ISAC, Program Operations/MAP Appeal, 1755 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield IL 60015. Appeals must include the student's Social Security number and be made within 60 days of the administrative decision made by ISAC. 3. expect prompt and courteous personal service from ISAC staff. We want to hear from you if you have comments about our customer service. 4. call the Federal Student Aid Information Center (800.433.3243) for general information about federal financial aid programs, application procedures, and for ordering a duplicate or corrected <i>FAFSA Submission Summary</i>. This number cannot be used to obtain information on ISAC's programs. To obtain information on ISAC's programs, call ISAC at 800.899.ISAC (4722), send an e-mail to isac.studentservices@illinois.gov, or visit ISAC's website at isac.org. Correspondence should be sent to the ISAC office in Deerfield. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. obtain the satisfactory academic progress standards of the college you have chosen and find out what will happen if you fail to meet them. You can obtain your college's standards by contacting your financial aid office. 6. know that all MAP grant funds are paid directly to the college on your behalf. The college requests payment in your name. ISAC will not send MAP money directly to you. 7. know that your file may be chosen for "verification." Your college or ISAC may ask you to provide supporting documentation for the information reported on your FAFSA. If you fail to provide requested information, you may no longer receive funding from the MAP grant or other aid programs for the 2025-26 academic year. 8. know that the MAP grant can only be used to cover tuition and mandatory fees at Illinois MAP-approved colleges. Mandatory fees are those charged to all students each year or term. For community college students, the grant is limited to the in-district tuition and mandatory fees. Out-of-district applicants must make arrangements to pay the additional college costs. The MAP grant does not pay for audit courses, credit-by-examination, life experience, or noncredit courses. Such course work cannot be used to determine enrollment status. |
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* Throughout this document, references to the FAFSA also apply to the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

** Throughout this document when a reference is made to "college," it means an Illinois MAP-approved postsecondary institution.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is your RESPONSIBILITY to:

1. provide, as requested, evidence of compliance with program requirements. To maintain eligibility, you must:
 - a. be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen [as defined on the FAFSA], or meet the undocumented student criteria of the RISE Act;
 - b. be a resident of Illinois and report Illinois (IL) as State of Legal Residence on the FAFSA. If you are a dependent student, the parent required to complete the FAFSA must live in Illinois and Illinois must be the parent's true, fixed, and permanent home; or if the required FAFSA contributor is an out-of-state parent, you must reside in Illinois with a parent and Illinois must be that parent's true, fixed and permanent home. If you are an independent student, you must presently live in Illinois and must have lived in Illinois for the 12 continuous, full months prior to the start of the academic year for which you are requesting aid, and Illinois must be your true, fixed, and permanent home;
 - c. have financial need calculated for a MAP grant at the college you are attending. ISAC uses information reported on your federal FAFSA to determine your need. If your information changes, your MAP grant amount will be recalculated;
 - d. enroll in an undergraduate program of study at an Illinois MAP-approved college for at least 3 credit hours. Your MAP grant amount will depend on the number of credit hours for which you are enrolled in a degree or certificate program each term;
 - e. know and maintain satisfactory academic progress standards as determined by the college you attend;
 - f. not have received a baccalaureate degree;
 - g. not have accumulated or exceeded a total of 135 MAP Paid Credit Hours. (see "TRACKING MAP USAGE" on the reverse for additional details); and
 - h. not be in default on any educational loan nor owe a refund on any federal or state grant.
2. read the section entitled "TRACKING MAP USAGE" on the reverse.
3. be aware that the amount of your grant could change. The amount of the grant is affected by the amount of funds appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly and by the number of applicants who receive the grant. Your announced grant could increase or decrease at a later date. MAP funding is typically insufficient to meet the application volume.
4. provide correct information. Your full name and Social Security number, if applicable, as they appear on your Social Security card, and your date of birth, will be matched against Social Security Administration records and should be corrected if necessary. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you will be denied assistance from all ISAC programs.
5. use the federal FAFSA Submission Summary or log in to your StudentAid.gov account to make corrections to the information you provided on the FAFSA, or to provide missing information. FAFSA changes must be made through the U.S. Department of Education. You should carefully check your FAFSA Submission Summary and follow the instructions that accompanied it.
6. use the online Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid to make corrections to the information you provided on the Alternative Application. Log in as a Returning Applicant, using your e-mail address and password to provide corrected or missing information. You must again provide your electronic signature to submit updated information.
7. make corrections or provide missing information as quickly as possible. If changes or corrections you make, including college changes, are not processed in a timely manner, the college may be unable to request payment in your name (see "PRIORITY CLAIM DATES" below for additional details).
8. notify your college if you receive any other scholarships, grants, employer tuition benefits, or other aid that will pay tuition or mandatory fees. These other sources of financial assistance may affect your MAP grant amount.
9. apply each year, and you are urged to **reapply early** for the 2026-27 academic year (as soon as possible on or after October 1, 2025). Please be aware that awards are made in the order that FAFSAs are received, until funding is depleted. ISAC will continue to accept 2025-26 FAFSA data through the academic year; however, once funds are depleted, further awards will not be announced unless additional funds become available. Returning MAP recipients (i.e., students who received MAP funds during the prior academic year and continue to meet all eligibility requirements) who submit their FAFSA by the priority deadline date will receive priority access to the appropriated MAP funds. The priority deadline date will be published no later than October 1 each year at isac.org.
10. ask questions about anything you do not understand regarding your MAP grant. Keep a record of the name of the person with whom you spoke and the date of the conversation.
11. know about ISAC appeal procedures. See Item 2 under "Student Rights" on the reverse for additional details.

PAYMENT CLAIM DATES

ISAC will establish payment claim deadline dates for each term, by which the college must submit MAP payment claims. Payment claims received after these term dates will be held until after the third quarter term payment claim date for the year. If funds remain, late claims will be processed in date-received order until all funds are expended. Late payment requests will result in delayed processing of payments.