





## **ISAC** Update

## ILASFAA Fall Workshops

Presented by: Kim Eck Tania Mendoza

November 2021



## 2021-22 Award Year



### Fiscal Year 2022 ISAC Program Appropriations

Monetary Award Program (MAP)	\$479,566,200
Grant Programs for Dependents of Police, Fire or Correctional Officers	\$1,273,300
Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program	\$6,498,000
Golden Apple Accelerators Program	\$750,000
Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program	\$1,900,000
Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment Program	\$439,900
Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program	\$264,000
Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment Program	\$26,400
Grant Program for Exonerees	\$150,000
AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program*	\$35,000,000

<sup>\*</sup> AIM HIGH Program funds are disbursed in lump sums by ISAC to public universities.

 The state's higher education budget also includes \$4.26 million for the Illinois Community College Board to reimburse community colleges for costs associated with providing IVG and ING Grant benefits

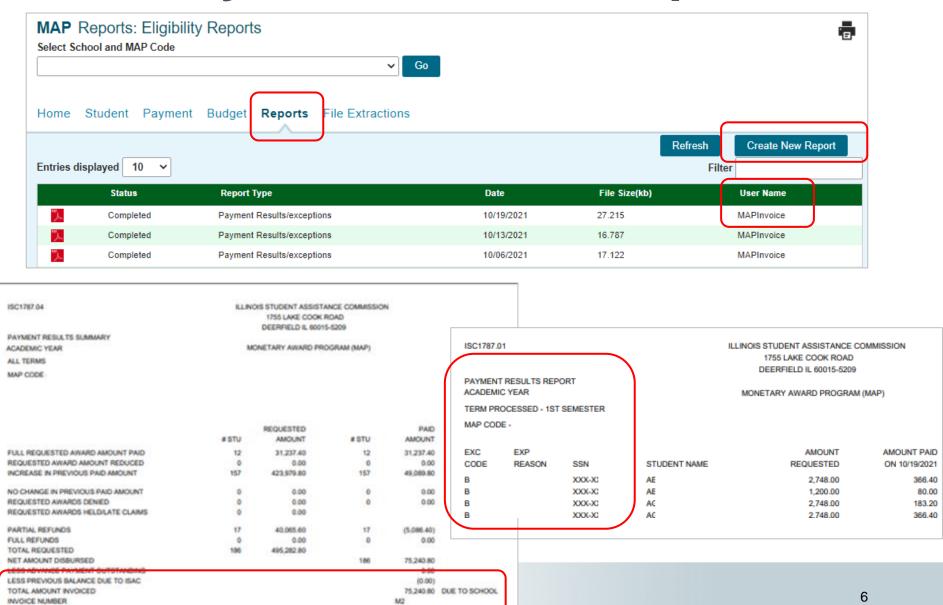


# 2021-22 Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- MAP suspense date is August 27, 2021
  - Initial FAFSAs or Alternative Applications received on or after this date will be flagged as being in suspense in the MAP system
- First term (fall) payment requests are currently being accepted
  - The first term claim deadline date is December 10, 2021
    - Initial claims made after the deadline date will be considered late and will only be paid if funding remains available after paying timely claims
  - Colleges are encouraged to review the Payment Results/Exceptions report in the MAP system the day after submitting payment requests to confirm that all requests processed as expected
- Release of MAP program funds from the Comptroller's office is expected in December



## **MAP Payment Results Report**



## MAP Payment Processing Resources

Home ISAC Gift Assistance Programs | Monetary Award Program (MAP) | Payment

 For additional guidance, see the MAP Payment MAP Payment User Guide

Disqualified record for disqualified reason code as listed.

Student previously paid as a graduating senior.

Payment annual award amount limit.

Held payment request - Late Claim

Held payment request - Insufficient funds available.

Suspended MAP payment.

Record previously paid to another school as listed for requested term.

MAP Paid Credit Hours increased due to change in enrollment hours. MAP Paid Credit Hours decreased due to change in enrollment hours.

Student not eligible for term requested. Application received after the deadline date.

With this payment, student attains 135 MAP Paid Credit Hours. Student will no longer be eligible

Change in payment was requested; record indicates that no prior payment has been made for this

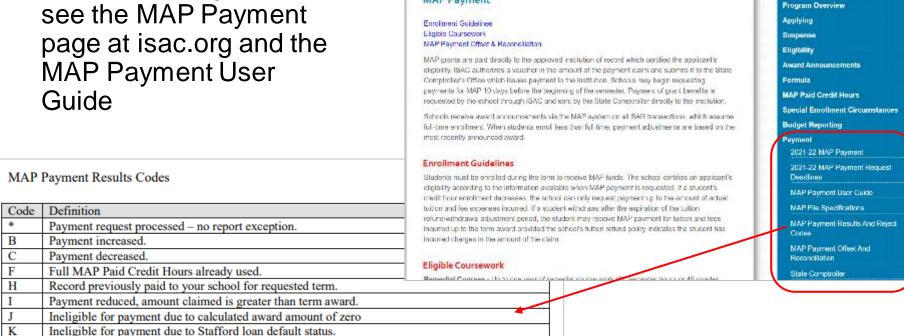
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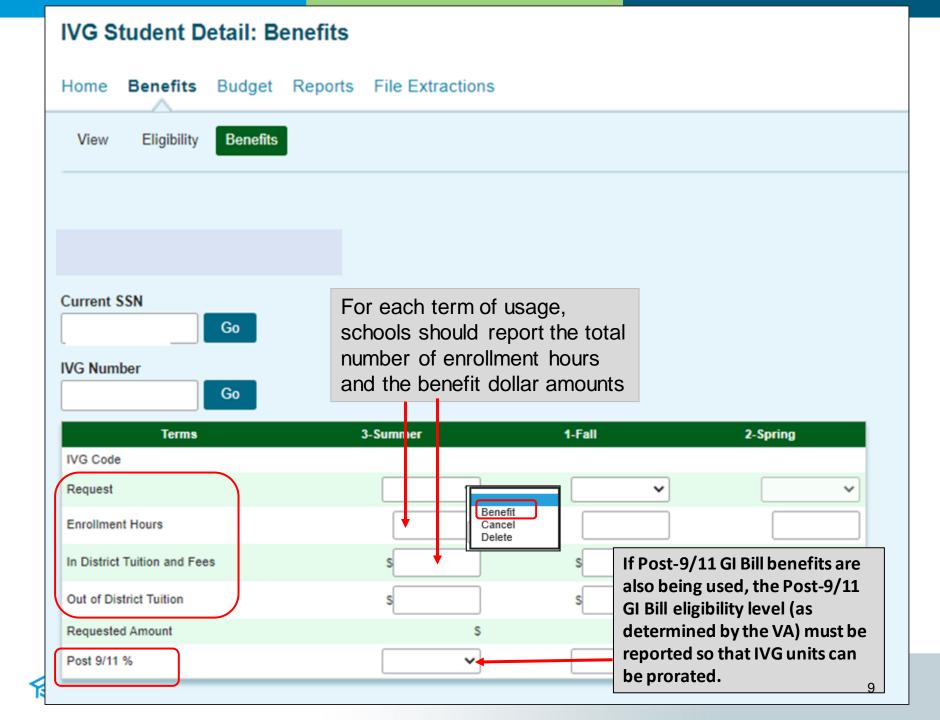
MAP Payment

Monetary Award Program (MAP)

# 2021-22 Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program

- Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program
  - The award year begins with the summer term
  - Students do not need to re-apply each year
    - Students who may not have used benefits for an extended period of time and want to confirm eligibility may contact ISAC for a duplicate eligibility letter
      - > 800-899-4722 or <a href="mailto:ISAC.Studentservices@illinois.gov">ISAC.Studentservices@illinois.gov</a>
  - IVG benefit usage data for the fall term must be submitted on or before **December 31, 2021**
    - Summer term data was due by September 30, 2021
  - Be sure to:
    - Report the actual number of enrollment hours and dollar amounts
    - Report in-district and out-of-district charges, if applicable
    - Make all necessary adjustments according to program rules if enrollment status changes

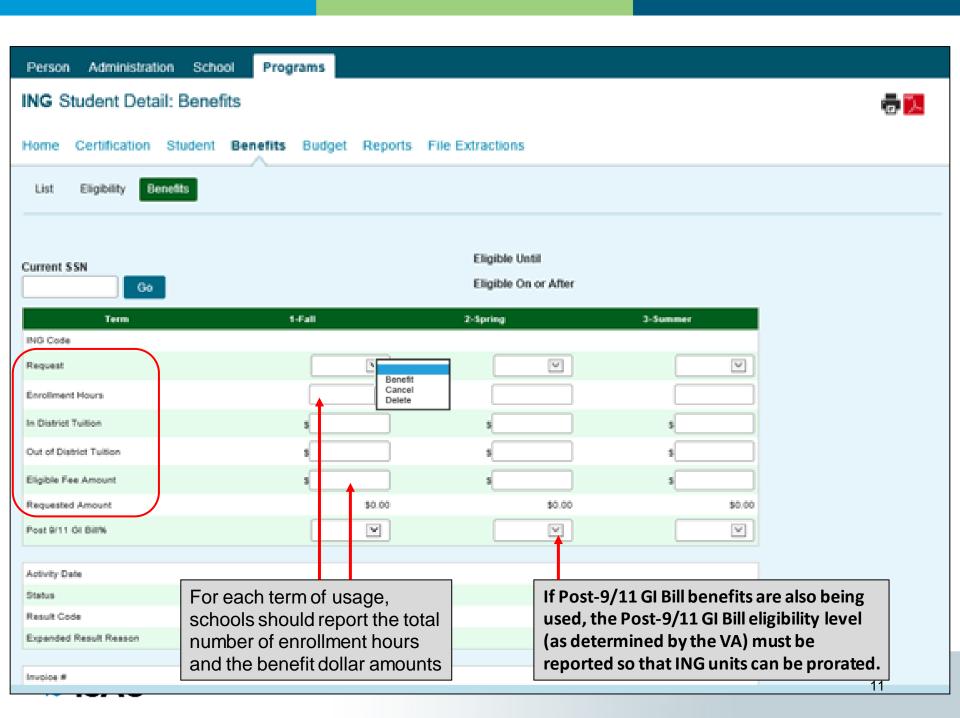




# 2021-22 Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant Program

- ING Grant benefit usage data for the fall term must be submitted on or before **December 31, 2021** to be considered timely
  - Be sure to:
    - Report the actual number of enrollment hours and dollar amounts
    - Report in-district and out-of-district charges, if applicable
    - Make all necessary adjustments according to program rules if enrollment status changes





## 2021-22 Grant Programs for Dependents of Police/Fire/Correctional Officers (PFC)

- The fall-term payment request deadline date is November 19, 2021
  - The timely submission of payment requests allows ISAC to monitor remaining funds and award other students, as applicable
- The Selective Service registration requirement has been removed from the 2021-22 Certification of Enrollment for Payment roster





4 = Senior 5 = Graduate

Certification of Enrollment for Payment
Grant Programs for Dependents of Police, Fire or Correctional Officers 2021 - 22 Academic Year

Return to: School Services 1756 Lake Cook Road 888.247.2172 ISAC.SchoolServices@illinois.gov

Printed by the authority of the State of Illinois

School Name				School Code				
Term: Requested				Due Date				
Applicant's Name	*Academic Level	Maximum Term Award Amount	Requested Amount					
	İ	, <b>\$</b>		HOURS				
		5	\$	HOURS				
		5	3	HOURS				
certify that each student for whom payment is requested meets the following:         Enrolled on at least a half-time basis;         Making satisfactory academic progress for the term in which payment is being of the Amount does not exceed the tuition and mandatory fees charged for this term; a Not in default on any student loan, nor owe a refund on any state or federal grant.			term; and	Beginning with the 2021-22 academic year, the Selective Service language has been removed from the certification statement.				
If not eligible, list reason: _								
Signature & Title of Certifying Official				ate				
Telephone Nur Key - Academic Level: 1 = Freshman 2 = Sophomore 3 = Junior	mber		E-mail Address					

# 2021-22 Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship (MTI) Program

- Priority application consideration date was March 1, 2021
  - Applications continue to be accepted
- Awarding took place in August for all timely new and renewal applicants who were certified as eligible
  - Notifications were mailed to all eligible applicants and award results are available to colleges in the MTI system in GAP Access
- Payment requests are currently be accepted in the MTI system
  - Fall term claims must be submitted by December 10, 2021
  - Review the Payment Results/Exceptions Report available in the MTI system the day after payment requests are processed
- Reminders
  - Continuously monitor for new applicants in the MTI system and complete certifications for all applicants
  - Applicants who are certified will be considered in additional rounds of awarding
    - Certifications must be completed regardless of whether the student is eligible or ineligible



### **MTI -- What's New for 2021-22**

- Priority payment request deadlines dates by term
  - Effective with the 2021-22 payment cycle, priority payment request deadline dates will be established for each term
  - Fall 2021 term payment requests are due on or before **December 10**,
     2021
    - Timely submission of claims, as well as cancellations and adjustments, allows ISAC staff to monitor remaining funds and award other students, as applicable.
- An MTI administrative rule change was implemented to allow MAP to be first payer when combined with MTI benefits



## 2021-22 Golden Apple (GA) Scholars of Illinois Program

- The application, certification and award determination functions are performed by the Golden Apple Foundation
- Once a student has been certified as eligible by the Foundation, the award will appear on the "Student List Eligibility: View" screen in the GA system in GAP Access
  - Award amounts are based on a student's year in the program and are automatically populated when the Foundation certifies students as eligible
  - Verification of the "Year in Program" value is part of the initial certification process completed by the Foundation
- Payment requests are currently be accepted in the GA system
  - o Fall term claims must be submitted by December 10, 2021
  - Review the Payment Results/Exceptions Report available in the GA system the day after payment requests are processed
    - Will include all students for whom payment was claimed



### GA: What's New for 2021-22

- Priority payment request deadlines dates by term
  - Effective with the 2021-22 payment cycle, priority payment request deadline dates will be established for each term
  - Fall 2021 term payment requests are due on or before
     December 10, 2021
- □ The Foundation is basing a recipient's maximum annual award amount on the number of years the student has been in the program (not the academic level in college)
  - On the "Student List Eligibility: View" screen, the "Academic Level" column has been renamed to "Year in Program"
- □ An "Academic Level" field has been added to the Payment Request screen in GAP Access where colleges must provide each Scholar's academic level (e.g., Freshman, Sophomore)

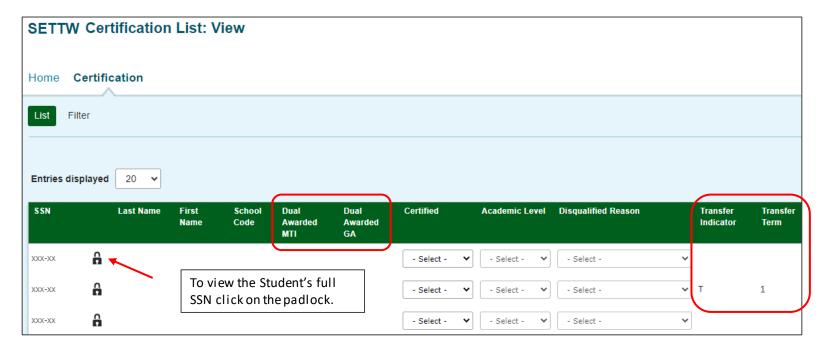


# 2021-22 Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW)

- The Tuition Waiver process for newly-awarded students, as well as transfer students, is available in the SETTW system in the GAP Access portal
  - This online process replaces the verification roster and certification form that had previously been e-mailed to schools
- Colleges are encouraged to clearly communicate SETTW award amounts to students as part of your financial aid awarding/communication process
  - Because the SETTW program has teaching requirements associated with it, it's important for students to be aware of their award amounts
  - If teaching requirements are not met, the award will convert to a loan that must be repaid



### 2021-22 SETTW Processing



- ☐ The tuition waiver process is completed on the Certification List: View screen for all newly awarded students and student who have transferred.
- Students who applied for MTI and GA are identified with a "Y" indicator in the Dual Awarded columns to warn schools of a potential conflicting scholarship
  - Students cannot receive both SETTW and MTI or GA during the same award year
- ☐ The Transfer Indicator will be populated with a "T" when the student has received benefits in a prior term or year at a different school and has transferred to your institution
  - The Transfer Term column will show the term the student can begin using the SETTW benefits
  - The term indicator will show a 1 (fall), 2 (spring), or 3 (summer)



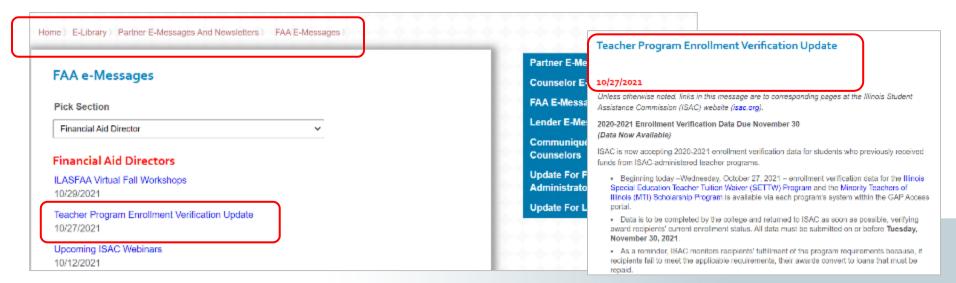
## **ISAC** Teacher Program Repayment

- If teaching requirements for ISAC teacher programs are not met, the scholarship received converts to a loan and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the award, prorated according to the fraction of the obligation not completed, plus interest at a rate of 5%
- The annual Enrollment Status Verification process that colleges must complete each fall for the previous award year assists ISAC with tracking when the teaching requirements must be completed
- Knowing recipients' enrollment status allows ISAC to communicate with recipients who have graduated (or otherwise stopped attending college) regarding the steps they need to take in order to fulfill program requirements.



# **2020-21 Enrollment Status Verification Process**

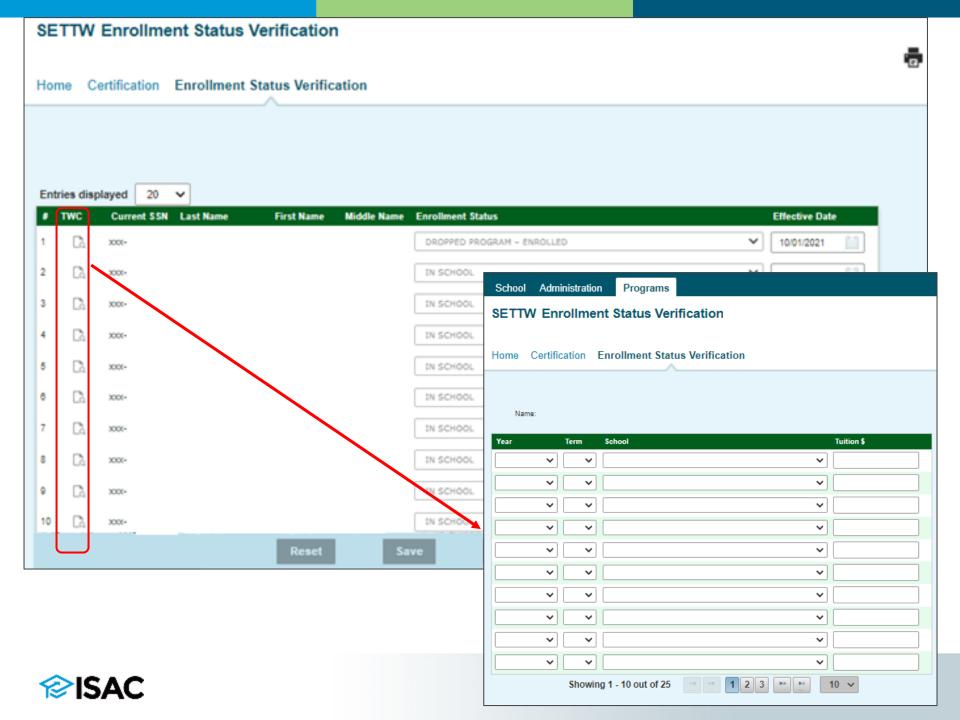
- ISAC is now accepting 2020-21 enrollment verification data for students who previously received funds from ISAC-administered teacher programs
- The process for submitting enrollment verification data for the SETTW and the MTI programs is available via each program's system within GAP Access
  - Enrollment verification functionality is available each day between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.
     (CT)
- Data is to be completed by the college and submitted to ISAC as soon as possible, verifying award recipients' current enrollment status.
- All data must be submitted on or before Tuesday, November 30, 2021
  - See the October 27, 2021 e-message for more information



# **SETTW Tuition Waiver Conversion Form**

- As part of the Enrollment Status Verification process, if a school indicates that a student is no longer enrolled, a SETTW Tuition Waiver Conversion (TWC) will need to completed
- The Tuition Waiver Conversion Form will require information about the tuition and mandatory fee amounts that were waived
  - The amount that is reported will be the repayment amount plus interest and any collection fees





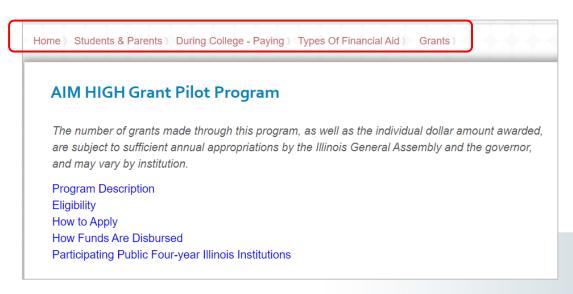
### Illinois AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program

- The Aspirational Institutional Match Helping Illinois Grow Higher Education (AIM HIGH) Grant Pilot Program is an initiative of the General Assembly's Higher Education Working Group and is intended to help public 4-year universities attract and keep Illinois residents.
- ISAC determines each institution's allocation of funds based on prior year Illinois resident undergraduate headcount enrollment, and institutions can choose to accept all, part, or none of the program funds allocated to them.
- The FY19 budget included \$25 million for the program, the FY20 budget included \$35 million for the program (allowing schools who spent all of their FY19 allocation to award a 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort), and the FY21 and FY22 budget included level funding for AIM HIGH \$35 million.
- Universities must match dollar-for-dollar the funds allocated to them with new non-loan financial aid above the level of non-loan financial aid distributed in AY17-18.
- Each university determines its own award criteria related to merit.
- Universities selected their own recipients beginning with the 2019-20 academic year.



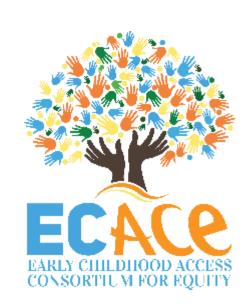
## AIM HIGH Recipient Eligibility Criteria

- To be eligible, students must:
  - have attended an Illinois high school
  - be a resident of Illinois
  - be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen (including RISE Act eligible students)
  - be enrolled full-time at a participating public university as an undergraduate student
  - file the FAFSA® and demonstrate financial need, with a household income no greater than 6 times the poverty guideline
  - meet any other criteria established by the university
- For additional eligibility criteria and details about each university's AIM HIGH grant program, visit the AIM HIGH page in the Student section of isac.org
  - isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/grants/aim-high.html



#### Participating Public Four-year Illinois Institutions Details regarding each university's AIM HIGH grant program are available by clicking on the university's name below. Chicago State University Eastern Illinois University AIM HIGH Main Program Page EIU Promise Program EIU Cost Match Freshman and Transfer Merit Scholarship Bonus Governors State University Illinois State University Northeastern Illinois University Northern Illinois University Southern Illinois University- Carbondale Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville University of Illinois - Chicago Chancellor's Fellow Program Institutional Grants University of Illinois - Springfield University of Illinois - Urbana/Champaign Western Illinois University

- The ECACE program was created to address the shortage of qualified early childhood educators by encouraging the pursuit of credentials and advancement of already-held degrees in early childhood education, with an aim toward building a strong, well-prepared workforce.
- Recipients of the scholarship are expected to continue or return to teaching or direct services in the early childhood care and education field following completion of their program of study.





- Awards will be available for undergraduate study at public and non-profit private 2- and 4-year Gateways-entitled and Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity member institutions
- For students attending community colleges and public universities, the scholarship will cover the applicant's total cost of attendance for an academic year (including summer) after other financial aid received
- Students at participating non-profit private institutions may receive an amount no more than the cost of the most expensive program of study in the early childhood education field at an Illinois public college



- To be eligible for the program, a student must:
  - o be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen
  - be a member of the incumbent workforce, having worked in the early childhood field, including family child care and centerbased care settings, Preschool for All school-based settings, and Head Start, that serves children from birth to age 5 and includes teachers, assistant teachers, directors, family child care providers and assistants.
    - Applicants must provide documentation confirming their membership in the Gateways to Opportunity<sup>®</sup> Registry.
    - The Registry provides members with the means to track their training and education, and identify professional development opportunities.



- To be eligible for the program, a student must:
  - be enrolled or accepted for enrollment on a full- or part-time (at least 3 credit hours) basis at a public or non-profit private 2- or 4year Gateways-entitled and Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) member institution, as an undergraduate student, pursuing an early childhood education major
    - If attending a 4-year institution, be at the junior level or above, or hold an Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Arts, or Associate of Science degree focused in early childhood education.
  - be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a course of study which qualifies the student to receive:
    - a postsecondary credential or undergraduate degree in the field of early childhood education, or
    - a Professional Educator's License in early childhood education.



- To be eligible for the program, a student must:
  - o maintain satisfactory academic progress
  - complete the online application process on or before an ISACestablished priority consideration date by submitting:
    - A complete Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship Program application, AND
    - A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
      - > For the same award year as the Scholarship application
  - be certified as meeting eligibility requirements by the college at which the student will use the scholarship
  - not be in default on any federal student loan, nor owe a refund on any state or federal grant.



### Consortium

- Means the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity
- All public universities and community colleges with early childhood programs are members by statute
- Each member of the consortium will sign-on to a set of agreements designed to ensure smooth, high-quality, seamless pathways for students to their degrees
- Private institutions with early childhood programs are encouraged to become members of the consortium by signing on to the set of agreements agreed to by the public institutions and by meeting statutory requirements
- Only non-profit private institutions may become members
- All members must be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and entitled to offer Gateways Credentials



#### Incumbent workforce

Means an individual or a group of individuals working or having worked in the early childhood industry, including family child care and center-based care settings, Preschool for All school-based settings, and Head Start, that serves children from birth to age 5 and includes teachers, assistant teachers, directors, family child care providers, and assistants.

#### Member institutions

Means the institutions of higher education participating in the Consortium

### Navigators

- Will provide personalized assistance for application and financial aid processes, and "hand-off" students to each student's program coach for a personal connection
- o Child Care Resource & Referral agencies will operate the navigator program

### Program Coaches and/or Mentors

 Institution-based staff who will provide support to students to persist and complete their studies



### Gateways-entitled institutions

- To become an Entitled Institution, an accredited college or university aligns their coursework to the Gateways Credentials. To become entitled, colleges must review and complete the Gateways Credential Entitlement Application, and submit it to the Higher Education Liaison for review and approval through a state process.
  - www.ilgateways.com/professional-development/higher-education-programs/becoming-entitled

### Gateways Registry

- The registry is a tool that, as part of a comprehensive professional development system, tracks the characteristics and ongoing professional development of the workforce, recognizes those attainments, and identifies approved courses/training and trainers. Anyone working with or "on behalf of" children, youth, and families in Illinois can become a Gateways Registry member.
  - https://registry.ilgateways.com/

### • Illinois Network of Child Care Resources and Referral Agencies

- INCCRRA is statewide organization which, in partnership with its 16 local Child Care Resources and Referral (CCR&R) agencies, is a recognized leader, catalyst and resource for making high quality, affordable early care and education and school-age care options available for children and families in Illinois.
  - www.inccrra.org/



- Advisory Committee
  - o Co-Chairs:
    - Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)
    - Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)
    - Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
    - Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS)
    - Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD)
- Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Act (PA 102-0174)
  - ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0174





- An application will be available at isac.org later this fall for the 2021-22 academic year
- In the meantime, students who think they may qualify are encouraged to submit a 2021-22 FAFSA®
- For more information on the Consortium, visit ibhe.org





## 2022-23 Award Year



# 2022-23 MAP Processing

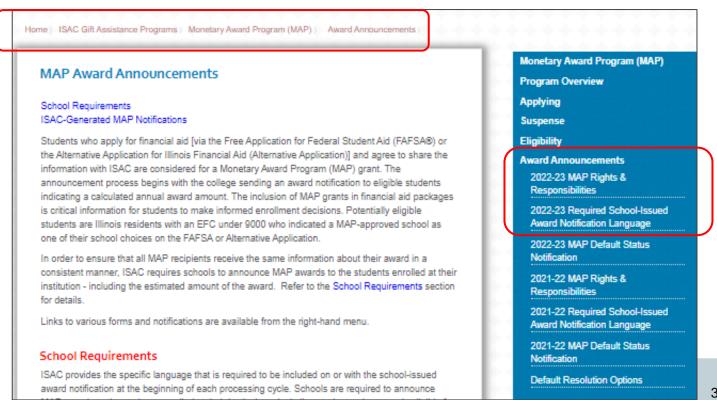
- The 2022-23 FAFSA and Alternative Application became available on October 1, 2021
- MAP eligibility information for applicants completing the 2022-23 FAFSA or the Alternative Application is available to colleges in GAP Access
- Based on the start-up formula, the maximum annual MAP award amount is \$5,496
- All MAP resources, including file specifications for using the file extraction feature of the MAP system, have been updated
- Visit the MAP Program News page for the most current information and updates





# 2022-23 MAP Award Notification Language

- The 2022-23 award notification language that colleges are required to provide to all MAP-eligible enrolled students, along with other notification guidance, is available on the MAP Award Announcements page
- Schools are required to clearly identify the estimated awards on the award notification as: State of IL MAP Grant (Est)





# Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

- The Alternative Application provides a pathway for students who meet eligibility requirements of the Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act to apply for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant
  - The RISE Act, which went into effect January 1, 2020, allows undocumented students and transgender students who may have been previously ineligible for federal financial aid due to the Selective Service registration requirement to apply for state financial aid
- An Alternative Application is made available for each award year on October 1 when a new FAFSA is launched
- The same financial data elements collected on the FAFSA (income and assets) are collected on the Alternative Application and an EFC is calculated to determine a student's eligibility for MAP
  - A 2021-22 Alternative Application was launched on October 1, 2020 and is available for students to complete until June 30, 2022
  - A 2022-23 Alternative Application was launched on October 1, 2021 and is available for students to complete until June 30, 2023



# **Alternative Application Process**

- The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is only available as an online application, and is not compatible with a mobile device
- Students and parents must sign the application electronically using Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) that will be provided by ISAC
- Once the application has been submitted, an EFC will be used in the MAP Formula in the same way that it is used for FAFSA applicants
- The EFC, the eligible MAP award amount, and other relevant data elements are provided to colleges as an Alternative Application Student Record in GAP Access
- Edits made to the 2022-23 FAFSA have also been made to the Alternative Application, as appropriate
- The Alternative Application does not include the Selective Service question or the Drug Conviction question
- ISAC is not be selecting records for verification in 2022-23



# Accessing the Alternative Application

- To access the Alternative Application, navigate to the RISE Act information page from the <u>isac.org</u> home page
  - https://www.isac.org/students/before-college/financial-aidplanning/retention-of-illinois-rise-act/
  - The application and resources are available in Spanish
  - The application is not accessible in ISAC's Student Portal or on the general ISAC Applications page with other ISAC program applications



En Español

## Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act and Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

(last updated October 1, 2021)

The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act allows eligible undocumented students and transgender students disqualified from federal financial aid due to failure to register for Selective Service (see Transgender Students area below for more explanation) to apply for all forms of state financial aid. The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid provides a way for these qualified



students to apply for Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants, the state's largest need-based grant program for low-income college students.

Applying for ISAC Programs Application for MAP: Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Application Process for MAP Applying for Other ISAC Programs

### Applying for ISAC Programs

The RISE Act provides a way to apply for ISAC gift assistance programs - including MAP, the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program, the Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Programs and others - to those who meet the RISE Act criteria and each program's eligibility requirements. The RISE Act does not exempt applicants from meeting existing program eligibility criteria.

#### **About The ISACorps**

College And Career Exploration And Planning

**Financial Aid Planning** 

Completing The FAFSA®

#### RISE Act/Alternative Application

Alternative Application FAQs

Alternative Application User Guide & FAQs

Accessing & Updating Your Alternative Application Student Profile

2022-23 Alternative Application Worksheet

2021-22 Alternative Application Worksheet

Types Of Financial Aid

Making An Informed College Choice Outreach Activities/Event Calendar



#### **Applying for ISAC Programs**

The RISE Act provides a way to apply for ISAC gift assistance programs – including MAP, the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program, the Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Programs and others – to those who meet the RISE Act criteria and each program's eligibility requirements. The RISE Act does not exempt applicants from meeting existing program eligibility criteria.

#### Undocumented Students

Undocumented students may be eligible to apply for ISAC's programs if they meet all of the criteria, which are based on Illinois statute regarding in-state tuition eligibility:

- the individual resided with his or her parent or guardian while attending an Illinois public or private high school;
- the individual graduated from a public or private high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in Illinois;
- the individual attended school in Illinois for at least 3 years as of the date the individual graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma;
- the individual provides an affidavit stating that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so; and
- the individual has not established a residence outside of Illinois.

#### Transgender Students

 Transgender students previously disqualified for student aid due to failure to register for Selective Service are also included in those eligible to apply for financial aid under the RISE Act. The RISE Act provides an application process for state financial aid consideration other than using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), which is used to qualify for both federal and state aid.

Because the failure to register for Selective Service no longer disqualifies an applicant from receiving federal student aid, that obstacle is removed for transgender students who do not register. Those students may want to consider completing the FAFSA® instead of the Alternative Application to maximize their financial aid opportunities. Transgender students may choose the application process – FAFSA or Alternative Application – that best suits their individual situation.

#### **Application for MAP**

To accommodate RISE Act-eligible students, an online application for MAP grants is available. Instead of completing the FAFSA to begin the MAP application process, these students may be eligible to complete the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application). The data from the application will be used to calculate an expected family contribution (EFC), which is used in determining a student's MAP eligibility. The application, patterned after the FAFSA, is accessible for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years through the link below.

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is not compatible with mobile devices.

#### **Application Process for MAP**

The following describes in general terms the steps of application completion and the process used to determine MAP eligibility.

- The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is accessible online through the area to the right.
- Pre-screening questions at the beginning of the application help students determine which application (Alternative Application vs. FAFSA) should be completed.
- If an applicant's answers to the pre-screening questions show the Alternative Application should *not* be completed, a message will advise them to consult their high school counselor, a financial aid professional, or an ISACorps member for assistance in completing the FAFSA.

Access the application here

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID Intended for qualifying

undocumented and

transgender students

- Similar to the FAFSA, students will only complete the application questions that are relevant to them.
- An "expected family contribution" (EFC) will be calculated from the information submitted on the Alternative Application, which will be used in determining a student's eligibility for MAP.
- MAP award amounts will be calculated for eligible students and provided to colleges by ISAC.
- As with all MAP awards, eligibility notification will be provided to the student by the college, not ISAC.

#### **Applying for Other ISAC Programs**

Students who want to learn about and apply for ISAC programs other than MAP can access program information and the applications through this site, in the Students, During College area. The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is for MAP consideration only.







Intended for qualifying undocumented and transgender students

#### Alternative Application to apply for 2022-2023 Illinois MAP Grants

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid allows qualifying undocumented students and transgender students who are not otherwise. eligible for federal financial aid to apply for Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants to attend eligible Illinois colleges, universities, and career education programs.

The pre-screening questions in this application will help you determine if you are a qualifying undocumented or transgender student who is not eligible for federal financial aid.

See our User Guide & Resources for this program >>

Select Academic Year 2022-2023

Are you a First-time or Returning Applicant?

Select First-time Applicants if you have never created an Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Student Profile and did not receive an ISAC ID Number for purposes of applying for the Monetary Award Program (MAP).

Select Returning Applicants if, at some time in the past, you created an Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid Student Profile and received an ISAC ID Number for purposes of applying for the Monetary Award Program (MAP). You must use the same e-mail address that was used for your previous application to file a new application, unless you changed your e-mail address on your Student Profile.

#### First-Time Applicants

- Click on the "Start" button to start a new 2022-2023 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
- Do not submit multiple applications for the same academic year

#### Returning Applicants

Complete or correct a 2022-2023 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

Forgot Username?

Forgot Password?

#### Submit Parent Signature

Click on the "Parent Signature" button to provide your parent's signature (required for dependent students)

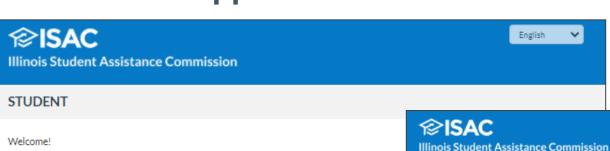


START

LOGIN

PARENT SIGNATURE

# **Alternative Application Process: Pre-Screening Questions**



Completion of the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is required to determine Mon eligibility for RISE Act (Public Act 101-0021) eligible students. For more information on the RISE website. Your application will be processed by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)

Before you complete the application, the following questions will determine whether this is the should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). Your responses to these question to be shared with your school or third parties (even after you complete the application). ISAC is policies and procedures in place to protect the integrity of student records.

To ensure your data is secure be sure to log out and close your browser when completed. In some just logging out, and your browser could potentially still be storing personally identifiable inform

CONTINUE

## STUDENT

This application is for individuals who are not eligible for federal student financial aid, including qualifying undocumented applicants, as well as transgender applicants who are not registered for Selective Service. Because the failure to register for Selective Service no longer disqualifies an applicant from receiving federal student aid, transgender students who do not register may want to consider completing the FAFSA® instead of the Alternative Application to maximize their financial aid opportunities.

The following questions will help determine if you may be eligible to apply for <u>federal</u> student aid or whether you are eligible to use this application to apply <u>only for state</u> student financial aid. You are encouraged to speak with a financial aid counselor at your school or an ISAC counselor to assist you with determining which application to file.

You may be eligible for <u>federal</u> student aid if you are a U.S. citizen (U.S. national) or what the federal government calls an "eligible noncitizen."

If you are a U.S. citizen (U.S. national), skip to the bottom of this page and select "Yes."

If you are <u>not</u> a U.S. citizen, you may still be eligible for <u>federal</u> financial aid if you are what the federal government calls an "eligible noncitizen." Select "Yes" at the bottom of this page if any of the descriptions of an "eligible noncitizen" below apply to you:

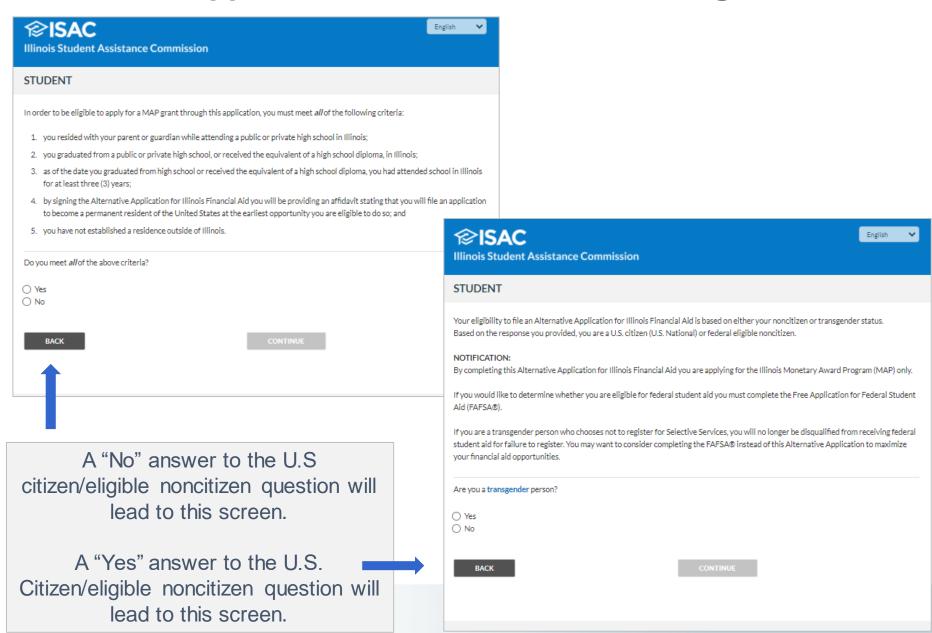
- U.S. permanent resident, with a Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as an Alien Registration Receipt Card or "Green Card")
- Conditional permanent resident (I-551C)
- Other eligible noncitizen with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of
  the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Indefinite Parole," "Humanitarian Parole," or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant"
- A citizen of the Republic of Palau (PW), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (MH), or the Federated States of Micronesia (FM).
- Hold a T nonimmigrant status ("T-visa") (for victims of human trafficking) or your parent holds a T-1 nonimmigrant status
- A "battered immigrant-qualified alien" who is a victim of abuse by your citizen or permanent resident spouse, or you are the child of a
  person designated as such under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

Are you a U.S. citizen (U.S. national) or someone who meets the description of an eligible noncitizen in one of the dot points above

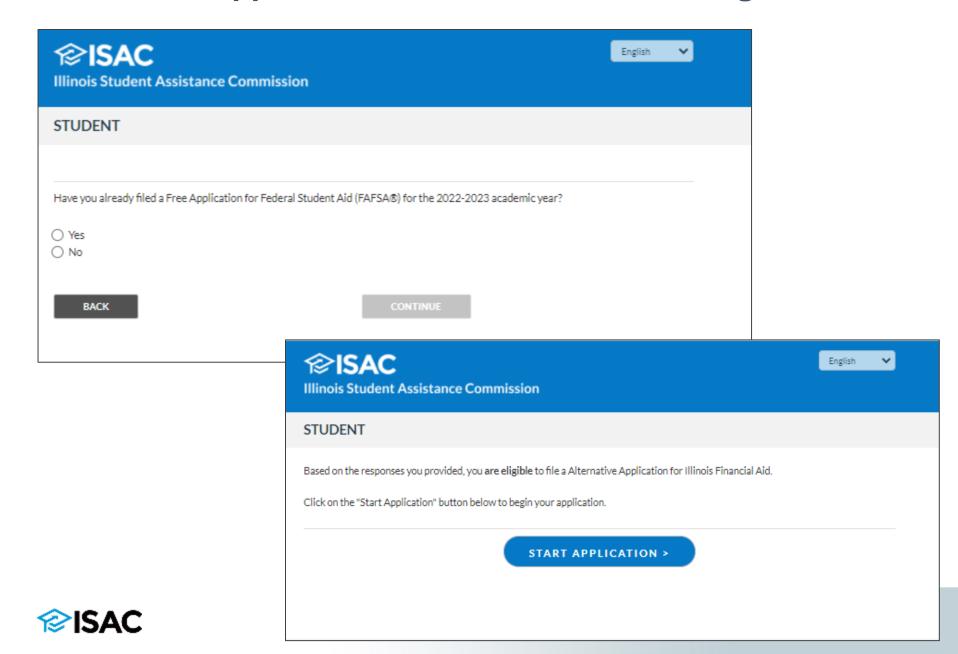




# **Alternative Application Process: Pre-Screening Questions**



# **Alternative Application Process: Pre-Screening Questions**

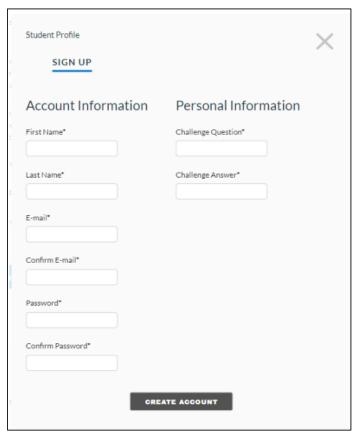


# **Alternative Application Process**

Creating a Student Profile

 Once a student has completed the pre-screening process and is determined eligible to complete the Alternative Application, the student must complete a Student Profile

- All fields are required
- The applicant should make note of the data used to create their profile
- The e-mail address provided should be a permanent one that the student will have regular access to (not one used just for high school or college purposes)
- If the applicant also has an ISAC Student Portal Account, they will need to use a different e-mail than the one used for the Portal
- Once the Student Profile is complete, ISAC will assign an ISAC ID number that is unique to the student
  - This is a permanent identifier that will remain the same for a student every year





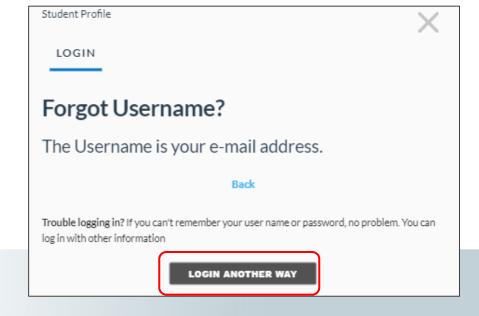
# **Alternative Application or FAFSA?**

- A student should complete either the FAFSA or the Alternative Application, depending on their eligibility and other considerations in determining which application to file
- In general, a student should not complete both applications, however, please note the following exceptions:
  - If the student filed an Alternative Application, but then becomes eligible for federal aid, it would be acceptable to file a FAFSA for the same award year.
  - If the student filed a FAFSA and it was rejected due to their citizenship status, they are encouraged to file an Alternative Application for the same award year if they meet all RISE Act eligibility requirements



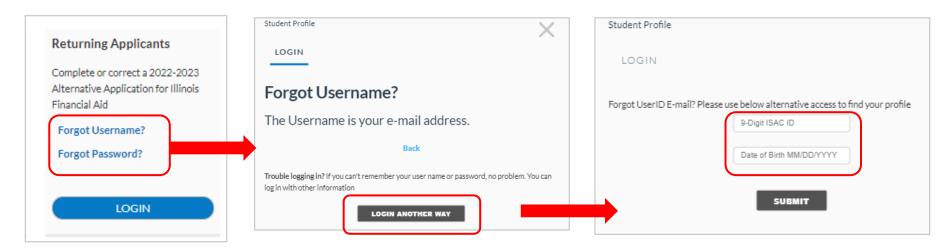
# Alternate Login for Applicants Who Have Forgotten E-mail Address or Password

- To help ensure users can access their existing Alternative Application Student Profile (instead of creating a new profile and ISAC ID), an alternate login process became available when the 2022-23 application launched
- This option is intended for those who:
  - Can't remember the e-mail address used to set up their Alternative Application Student Profile
  - Forgot their password and no longer have access to the e-mail address they used to set up their Profile
  - Forgot their Challenge Answer and no longer have access to the e-mail address they used to set up their Profile
- The option Login Another Way –
  is available to users when clicking
  on "Forgot Username" or "Forgot
  Password" from the Home screen
  or Login screen
- It will require users to provide their ISAC ID and date of birth to access their Student Profile and update login credentials





# Alternate Login for Applicants Who Have Forgotten E-mail Address or Password



- The ISAC ID is a unique identifier created and assigned to an applicant once a Student Profile has been created
  - It will appear on pages in the online application, on the printable application summary page, and on the confirmation page received by the student when the application has been submitted.
  - It is also used to identify applicants in GAP Access
- ISAC is not able to provide the ISAC ID number to students on the phone or via an e-mail request.
- Students may need to reach out to the financial aid office at their college for assistance
- Colleges are encouraged to have a process in place to ensure/confirm student identity before providing an ISAC ID number to a student



# Identifying Alternative Application Records

- Similar to an ISIR, the Alternative Application Student Record includes all application data elements
  - The order of the data in the file layout follows the order of the ISIR and the values are the same, unless otherwise noted
  - Available as a text file in Notepad
    - Using free Notepad++ app provides more user-friendly viewing
  - Does not include the eligible MAP award amount
  - Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout document provides details about field names, length of data fields, and start and end positions
    - Located in the Electronic Tools section of the E-Library at isac.org
- Creating/uploading Alternative Application Student Record files to colleges' internal systems is not required.
  - Relevant student applicant data that is provided in GAP Access may be relied on to administer MAP for both FAFSA and Alternative Application applicants



# File Layout Documents in E-Library

Home E-Library

#### **Electronic Tools**

This section provides information on electronic tools and specifications for loan and grant payment processing. Links to helpful software programs are also provided.

### **Processing ISAC Gift Assistance Programs**

#### 2022-23

- FTP Process Using GAP Access Credentials
- 2022-23 MAP 160-Byte File Layout Specifications
- 2022-23 Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout

#### 2021-22

- FTP Process Using GAP Access Credentials
- 2021-22 MAP 160-Byte File Layout Specifications
- 2021-22 Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout
- 2021-22 ING Grant 160-Byte File Layout Specifications
- 2021-22 IVG 160-Byte File Layout Specifications

**Partner E-Messages And Newsletters** 

**Partner Training** 

**Applications & Forms** 

**Administrative Rules** 

The Commission

**Outreach Events** 

**Electronic Tools** 

**Applying For Financial Aid** 

**ISAC Transcript Exchange** 

**Federal Information** 

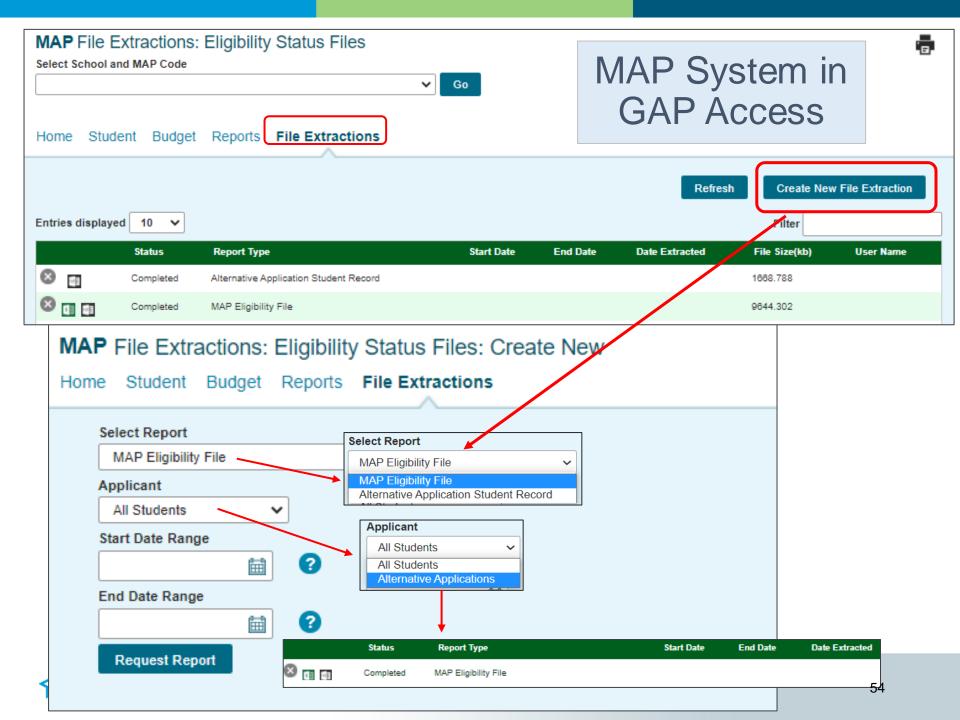
**Job Aids And Reference Materials** 

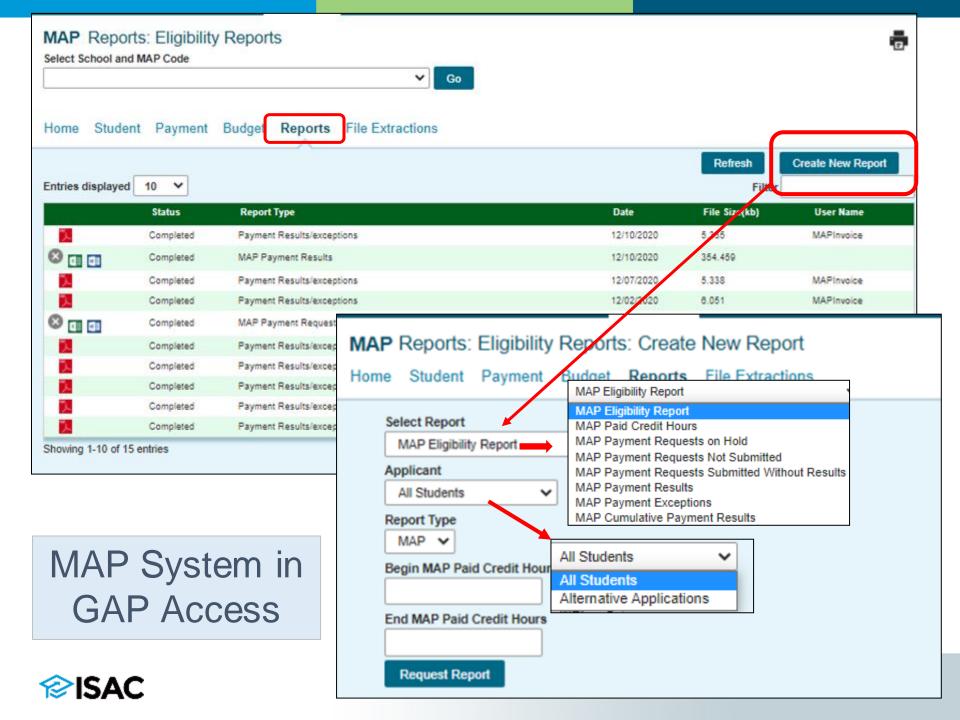
Press Releases And State Legislative Update

Research, Policy Analysis & Statistics

**Advisory Groups** 

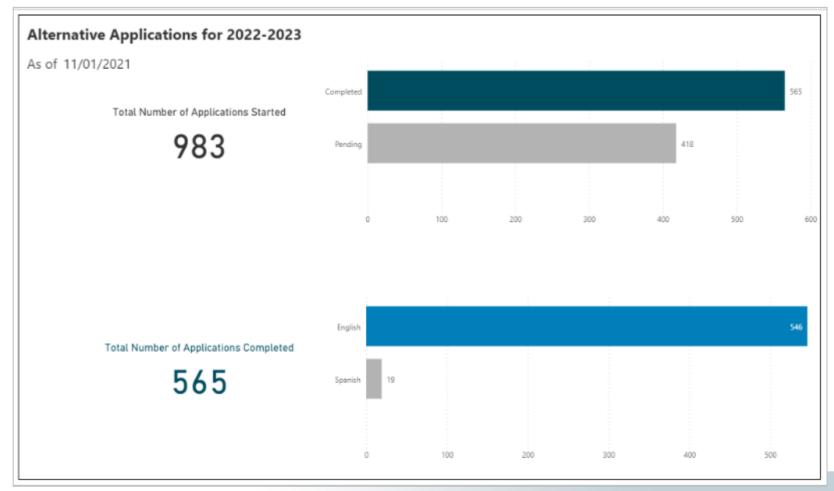






# 2022-23 Alternative Applications

As of November 1, 2021





# Students with Duplicate MAP Records

- ISAC's periodic review of student records in the MAP system is finding that there are some students with duplicate records
  - Some with a FAFSA and an Alternative Application on file
  - Some with two (or more) Alternative Applications on file
- Colleges are expected to ensure that students are not being paid MAP under more than one application in an award year
  - This may best be accomplished by reviewing MAP reports and identifying students with the same name, address, date of birth and/or other identifiers that would be unique to a student.
- In general, if a student is eligible to receive MAP benefits as the result of having a valid FAFSA/ISIR on file, the student should not receive MAP as an applicant through the Alternative Application process
  - Students eligible to file a FAFSA should continue to do so from one year to the next, and not change back and forth
  - The Alternative Application is not intended as a way to circumvent the federal FAFSA process for applicants who have student eligibility issues such as being in default, owing a refund on a federal grant, having a Social Security Number issue, etc.



# Students with Duplicate MAP Records

- If colleges notice that a student has submitted two (or more) different Alternative Applications and has multiple ISAC ID numbers, they are encouraged to work with the student to determine which application record/ISAC ID is the valid one on which MAP awarding should be done
- Once it's determined which record is valid, contact School Services for guidance on getting the records synced so that the student will only have one Student Profile, ISAC ID number and Alternative Application record in the MAP system moving forward
  - o <u>ISAC.SchoolServices@illinois.gov</u>



# Students with Duplicate MAP Records

- Colleges may see a Disqualify Code of "9" in the MAP system in GAP Access when ISAC is able to identify that a student has received MAP benefits as a FAFSA applicant and then has subsequently submitted an Alternative Application for another award year.
  - Records with the Disqualify 9 Code will display the yellow lightbulb icon (indicating a student eligibility issue) on the Student List View screen
  - The Disqualify Code will be highlighted on the Student Detail screen
- If the college determines that the Alternative Application is the best application process for the student, the college should contact School Services to have the Disqualify 9 Code removed
  - o ISAC.SchoolServices@illinois.gov
- For more detailed information on duplicate records see the 2022-23
   Operational Guide for Alternative Application Processing on the Partner Training page in the E-Library at isac.org



# 2022-23 MTI Scholarship Program

- As a result of the Education and Workforce Equity Act (Public Act101-0654), several changes will be made to the MTI program for the 2022-23 award year
  - Legislation passed following the January 2021 Lame Duck session
  - Signed into law on March 8, 2021
- An updated application/promissory note will be available in January 2022 for 2022-23 applicants
- Administrative rules for the MTI program are being updated to reflect the changes





# 2022-23 MTI Scholarship Program

## MTI enhancements:

- Increases the percentage of funds to be reserved for male applicants to 35%, with priority given to qualified Black males
- Incorporates consideration of financial need in awarding
  - Will be based on the EFC calculated by the FAFSA or Alternative Application
- Allows for students to be eligible for MTI even if not yet enrolled in an educator preparation program if they have received a College and Career Pathways Endorsement and commit to enrolling in a course of study leading to teacher licensure
- o If funding reaches specified thresholds:
  - Award amount would increase to \$7,500
  - Funds would be reserved for qualified bilingual minority applicants, with priority given to students enrolled in a program with a concentration in bilingual, bicultural education



# **New MTI Definitions/Terminology**

- Qualified bilingual minority applicant
  - A qualified student who demonstrates proficiency in a language other than English by receiving a <u>State Seal of</u> <u>Biliteracy</u> from the <u>State Board of</u> Education or receiving a passing score on an <u>educator licensure target language</u> <u>proficiency test</u>.

- College and Career Pathway Endorsements
  - Pursuant to Section 80 of the <u>Postsecondary and Workforce</u> <u>Readiness Act</u>
    - Students earn endorsements by completing an individualized learning plan, a career-focused instructional sequence, and professional learning opportunities.



# Sample of MTI Scholarship Program Proposed Rule Changes for 2022-23

- be a resident of Illinois;
- be a citizen or eligible noncitizen of the United S
- be a high school graduate or a high school equivarecipient;
- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment on at least
- be a student at an institution of higher learning;
- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in upon completion, qualifies the student to preschool, elementary or secondary school State Board of Education, including alternative.

  Or
  - B) if the applicant is already licensed to tead accepted for enrollment in a course of stuadditional teaching endorsement or a manacademic field in which the applicant is to or has received one or more College and Endorsements (pursuant to Section 80 of Workforce Readiness Act) and commits to study leading to teacher licensure, includicensure. [110 ILCS 947/50]

#### Section 2763.30 Program Procedures

- a) An application for an MTI scholarship must be submitted annually and an applicant must also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid® (FAFSA). AnA-completed ISAC application for the MTI Scholarship Program and a FAFSA must be postmarked on completed and received by a date determined by ISAC or before March 1 immediately preceding the regular school year for which the scholarship is being requested, in order to receive priority consideration for an award.
  - An application Applications is are available from qualified institutions of higher learning, on ISAC's website and ISAC's Springfield, Deerfield and Chicago offices.
  - ISAC will make renewal applications available to all qualified students who were awarded MTI Scholarships during the preceding regular school year.
  - 23) If the MTI application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant. The applicant will then have an opportunity to furnish the missing information; however, the application will only be considered for processing as of the date when the application is complete and received byat ISAC's Deerfield office.
- When an appropriation for the MTI Program for a given fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all qualified students, ISAC will allocate the available scholarship funds for that fiscal year to qualified students who submit a complete timely application, as specified in paragraph a) based on the following order of priority:
  - Funds will first be awarded to students who received the MTI scholarship in the prior academic year and who remain eligible for the MTI scholarship.



# New School Requirement for MTI Program, Effective for 2022-23

- Each institution that participates in the MTI program shall host an annual information session about the program for teacher candidates of color
- Each program recipient enrolled at the institution is expected to meet with an academic advisor at least once per academic year in an effort to facilitate ontime completion of the student's educator preparation program



# **ISAC** Processing Resources

- ISAC e-messaging
  - Subscription-based service
  - Messages archived in the E-Library
- FAA section of isac.org
  - Program news
  - Monthly calendar
- GAP Access user guides for most programs and processes
- Partner Training page in the E-Library
  - Monthly webinar presentations
  - Program overview recordings on demand
  - Operational guide
  - Illinois residency FAQ



Ouick Links
Borrowers
Counselors
e Library
FAAs
GAP Access
IDAPP
Lenders
Military Service
Non-Eligible, Non-Citizens

Transcript Exchange

About ISAC Contact ISAC Employment Executive Director The Commission FOIA Social Networks

800.899.ISAC (4722)

e-Messaging

Get the latest news & updates from ISAC

Order ISAC Materials

Applications

# ISAC e-Messaging

## Financial Aid Administrators (FAAs) e-Messaging

Please fill in the required details and select the Email List(s) to which you would like to subscribe by marking the boxes below.

\*indicates required field

**Email Lists** 

e-Messaging Sign-Up

Our e-Messaging service will keep you informed and up-to-date on the Illinois Student Assistance
Commission's programs and services. Although Constant Contact is the provider for the e-Messaging
service, our messages share ISAC programmatic and operational information and are not marketing
in nature.

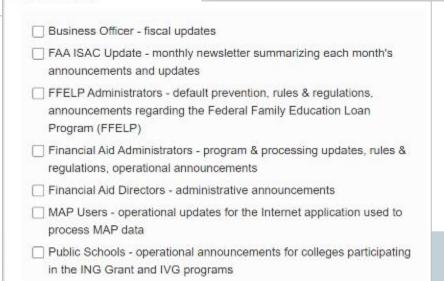
From the options below, choose the category that best describes you, and then subscribe to one or
more of the available Email Lists by filling out your name and e-mail address and clicking on "Sign
Upt".

Counselors

Students/Parents

Financial Aid
Administrators (FAAs)

Lenders





#### E-Library for Partners

1. Partner E-Messages & Newsletters

This month's e-Messages and the monthly/quarterly ISAC Updates and Communique

2. Partner Training

ISAC training and event calendars and online registration

3. Applications & Forms

Scholarship, grant, and loan repayment/forgiveness applications, common FFFI P forms and ISAC brochures.

4. Administrative Rules

Current and previous year's ISAC Rules, Proposed Rules if applicable

5. ISAC Governing Board: The Commission

Meeting schedules, Commissioner biographies, Agenda Books

6. Manuals & Handbooks

Common Manual, Federal Student Aid Handbook, Counselors and Mentors Handbook, Handbook of Illinois Postsecondary Institutions

Home E-Library Partner E-Messages And Newsletters FAA E-Messages

### FAA e-Messages

**Pick Section** 

Financial Aid Director

#### Financial Aid Directors

ILASFAA Virtual Fall Workshops

10/29/2021

Teacher Program Enrollment Verification Update

10/27/2021

Upcoming ISAC Webinars

10/12/2021

2022-23 MAP Start-up Implementation

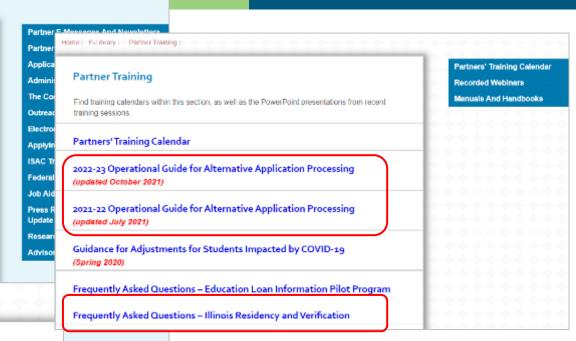
10/07/2021

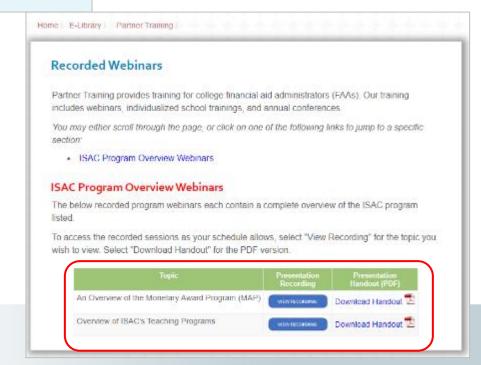
2022-23 FAFSA®, Alternative Application, and Important Dates

10/01/2021

First-term Claim Deadline for FY22 MAP, MTI and Golden Apple: December 10

09/22/2021







By choosing from these topics, Financial Aid Administrators personnel have fingertip access to a centralized source of i concerning ISAC's programs, processes, and resources.

- ISAC Gift Assistance Programs
- Other Programs
- Processes
- e-Library

**FAA Quick Links** 





#### 2021-22 ISAC Rules

Select order in which to view the 2021-22 ISAC Rules:

Listed Alphabetically Listed by Program Type/Topic

### 2021-22 ISAC Rules - Listed Alphabetically

- Administrative Wage Garnishment [Part 2722]
- Adult Vocational Community College Scholarship Program [Part 2745]
- AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program [Part 2766]
- Alternative Loan Program [Part 2721]
- Americans With Disabilities Act Grievance Procedure [Part 1400]
- Child Welfare Student Loan Forgiveness Program [Part 2769]
- College Planning Act [Part 2774]
- College Savings Bond Bonus Incentive Grant (BIG) Program [Part 2771]
- Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program [Part 2753]
- Community College Transfer Grant (CCTG) Program [Part 2740]
- Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) [Part 2720]
- General Provisions [Part 2700]
- Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program [Part 2764]

Proposed Rules Amenda Scholarship Program

2021-22 ISAC Rules

2020-21 ISAC Rules

2019-20 ISAC Rules

2017-18 ISAC Rules

2018-19 ISAC Rules

2016-17 ISAC Rules

2015-16 ISAC Rules

2014-15 ISAC Rules

2013-14 ISAC Rules

2012-13 ISAC Rules

2011-12 ISAC Rules

2010-11 ISAC Rules

2009-10 ISAC Rules

2008-09 ISAC Rules 2007-08 ISAC Rules

2006-07 ISAC Rules





ISAC Gift Assistance Program (GAP)

Home Gap-Access

### ISAC Gift Assistance Programs (GAP) Access

ABOUT ISAC >

Assigning an Administrator GAP Access User Guides GAP Access Login Functionality Available via GAP Access

ISAC Gift Assistance Programs Access (or GAP Access) is the portal through which online interactions for the purpose of data inquiries and submissions, eligibility announcements a payment requests for ISAC-administered programs are conducted. Due to the confidentia the student-specific data involved, a secure authentication process is required before accidental access.

User Guides for all GAP Access functionality are below. General questions, user name and password maintenance, and technical information about GAP Access are answered in the Activating and Authentication User Guides.

- Activating GAP Access User Accounts
- Activating Other GAP Access Administrators
- Activating Your GAP Access Primary Administrator Account
- AIM HIGH Data Collection 🔼
- Budget Reporting Process User Guide
- Enrollment Status Verification for the Teacher Programs User Guide
- FAFSA Completion Initiative Access and Agreement 🔁
- GAP Access Two-Factor Authentication User Guide
- GAP Access User Verification
- 🗸 Golden Apple Scholarship User Guide 🔼
- ING Grant User Guide 🔁
- IVG Program User Guide
- MAP Advising Data Collection User Guide
- MAP Eligibility User Guide
- MAP Payment User Guide
- MIA/POW Scholarship Program User Guide
- MTI User Guide
- SETTW Certification Process User Guide
- SSP File Upload Guide
- SSP GAP Access User Guide

If you have a question about information that is not addressed in the Guides, contact a School Services Representative.



# **Legislative Update**

- Illinois Public Act 102-0214
  - https://ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0214&GA=102
  - Applies to
     Illinois public
     universities
  - Effective date:1/1/2022

Sec. 120. Academic major report. The Board of Trustees shall provide to each enrolled student, at the time the student declares or changes his or her academic major or program of study, a report that contains relevant, independent, and accurate data related to the student's major or program of study and to the current occupational outlook associated with that major or program of study. The report shall provide the student with all of the following information:

- (1) The estimated cost of his or her education associated with pursuing a degree in that major or program of study.
- (2) The average monthly student loan payment over a period of 20 years based on the estimated cost of his or her education under paragraph (1).
- (3) The average job placement rate within 12 months after graduation for a graduate who holds a degree in that major or program of study.
- (4) The average entry-level wage or salary for an occupation related to that major or program of study.
- (5) The average wage or salary 5 years after entry into an occupation under paragraph (4).



# **Federal Resources**

- ED Electronic Announcement General-21-70, posted October 28, 2021
  - Subject -- Issuing Financial Aid Offers—What Institutions Should Include and Avoid
    - <u>fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2021-10-28/issuing-financial-aid-offers-what-institutions-should-include-and-avoid</u>
- The College Financing Plan webpage
  - Provides students, families, and institutions with information about the College Financing Plan
    - Previously referred to as the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet
    - https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/index.html



# **Upcoming ISAC Events**

- Next Commission Meeting
  - Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 1 p.m.
    - Additional details, including a listing of tentative agenda items can be found in the Commission section of isac.org closer to the meeting date
- Monthly Webinars for FAAs
  - November 24 at 10 a.m.
    - ISAC Operational Update and Program News
  - December 22 at 2 p.m.
    - ISAC Operational Update and Program News



# **ISAC Contact Information**

### **School Services**

866-247-2172

<u>isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov</u>

### ISAC Call Center – Student Services

800-899-4722

isac.studentservices@illinois.gov

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## Kim Eck, Partner & Training Services

217-785-7139

Kimberly.Eck@illinois.gov

## Tania Mendoza, Partner & Training Services

Tania.Mendoza@illinois.gov



# ISAC's Program Services & Compliance Division



### **School Services**

Mary Lewis

### **Student & Parent Services**

- Paul Oliver
- Bertha Esquivel
- Ghouse Farooqi
- Ramon Gonzalez
- Nicole Kelleher
- Marlen Mubarak
- Larry Thompson

### **Partner Services**

- Kim Eck
- Tania Mendoza



# **Questions/Comments**



