

# ISAC Review of Illinois National Guard Grant, Illinois Veteran Grant, and Other Program News

August 15, 2024



# Agenda

- Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant
- Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)
- Combining Programs
- Other ISAC News
- Q & A

# Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant

- The ING Grant is an entitlement program
  - Eligible applicants are exempt from paying eligible tuition and certain fees
    - Awarded to all eligible applicants regardless of funding levels
    - Specified by Illinois statute
      - Chapter 110, Higher Education Student Assistance Act
      - <https://ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1161&ChapterID=18>
  - Benefits are available at all Illinois 2- and 4-year public colleges
  - May be used at the undergraduate and graduate levels
  - Eligible applicants may receive:
    - Equivalent of four academic years of full-time enrollment (120 units)
    - Equivalent of six academic years of full-time enrollment (180 units) if completed 10 years or more of active duty ING service
  - No minimum enrollment requirement
    - Non-credit courses are eligible

# ING Eligible Fees

- Pays tuition and certain fees
  - Fees eligible students are exempt from paying:
    - Registration fees
    - Graduation fees
    - General Activity fees
    - Term fees
    - Matriculation fees
      - Typically charged only to new students when they have been both admitted and enrolled
  - Fees that are not exempt:
    - Book rental fees
    - Laboratory and Supply fees
    - Air Flight fees
    - Hospital and Health Insurance fees
    - Room and Board fees
    - Parking fees
    - Student Union fees
    - Athletic fees
    - Proficiency or Placement Exam fees and other similar fees
    - Service fees

# ING Grant Eligibility Requirements

- Be an Illinois National Guard member, meeting one of these two criterion:
  - be active in the Illinois National Guard **or**
  - have been active in the Illinois National Guard for at least five consecutive years and have been called to federal active duty for at least six months and be within 12 months after their discharge date from the Illinois National Guard
- Have completed one full year of service in the Illinois National Guard
- Be an enlisted member or an officer (Public Act 94-583)
- Be enrolled at an Illinois public 2- or 4-year college
- Maintain an acceptable grade point average (GPA) according to the policy determined by your college
- Not be in default on any student loan, nor owe a refund on any state or federal grant
- Submit application in time for ISAC to determine eligibility and for the applicant to be able to notify the college *no later than the last scheduled day of classes for the first term for which benefits have been requested*

# ING Grant Eligibility Policies

- ISAC General Provisions - 2700.40 General Applicant Eligibility Requirements
  - [isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2700-General-Provisions.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2700-General-Provisions.pdf)
    - i) Except for grants pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2730 (Illinois National Guard Grant Program) (ING Grant) and 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2733 (Illinois Veteran Grant Program) (IVG Grant), an applicant must be maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the institution's policy.
- Illinois National Guard Grant Rules - Section 2730.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - [isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2730-ING.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2730-ING.pdf)
    - d) Recipients must maintain an acceptable grade point average as determined by the institution pursuant to a published policy.

# Applying for ING Grant

- **Student must re-apply each year**
- Online application process at the ISAC Student Portal
  - Applicants must have a profile in the ISAC Student Portal in order to complete and submit the application
  - Applicants can no longer access the application's "guests"
  - Once profile is created, applicant can return to the Student Portal to check their application status, verify the number of ING Grant eligibility units remaining, or print copy of ING Grant eligibility notification
  - Students will receive a confirmation page upon completing the application
- There are no longer application deadline dates for each term
- Qualified applicants receive a notice of eligibility from ISAC

# ING Grant Administration Process

- ISAC
  - Determines compliance with application requirements
  - Monitors benefit usage (units) to ensure that applicants have not exceeded the maximum benefits
- Illinois Department of Military Affairs (DMAIL)
  - Certifies (in GAP Access) that the applicant is on active status with the Illinois National Guard
  - If applicable, provides date for when one-year service requirement will be met or when active status will end
  - Confirms 10 years or more of service, which allows recipient to receive two additional years of benefits
- ISAC sends:
  - Notice of Eligibility to qualified applicants
  - Notice of Ineligibility to individuals who do not meet eligibility criteria



# ING Grant Benefit Usage Reporting

- School provide the number credit hours enrolled and tuition and fee amounts
- If combining benefits with the Post-9/11 GI Benefit, the eligibility percentage (as determined by the VA) should also be provided
  - The system will multiply the number of credit hours the student is enrolled in by the percentage being covered by the ING Grant to prorate units

Term	1-Fall	2-Spring	3-Summer
ING Code			
Request	Benefit ▼	Benefit ▼	▼
Enrollment Hours	8.0	12.0	
In District Tuition	\$ 3,592.00	\$ 5,388.00	\$
Out of District Tuition	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$
Eligible Fee Amount	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$
Requested Amount	\$3,592.00	\$5,388.00	\$0.00
Post 9/11 GI Bill%	▼	▼	▼

A drop-down list includes percentage values to report an ING recipient's eligibility level for Post-9/11 GI Bill, ranging from 40% to 90%

- Schools should select the Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility level confirmed by the VA.
- For ISAC purposes, this is only used to determine the percentage for the ING proration calculation to determine the number of ING units being used when combining benefits with the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- There is not a 100% option; units are not prorated for students at the 100% eligibility level.

40  
50  
60  
70  
80  
90

**In the Tuition & Eligible Fee fields,** schools should enter the amount of tuition and fees eligible to be covered by ING after Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits have been applied by the school.

# ING Grant Reminders

- It is recommended that colleges check the ING Grant system at least once a week for new student applicant data that may have been added to your school's list
- Schools may rely on the eligibility information provided by ISAC in GAP Access
  - You do not have to require that the student provide a copy of their eligibility letter
- Submit benefit usage by term priority dates so they are considered timely and eligible to be reimbursed ICCB or ISAC funding

# 2024-25 ING Grant Program News

- 2024-25 application was made available in June
- Benefit request processing for the fall term is now available
- Priority claim date for the fall term is December 31, 2024
  - Claims and adjustments submitted after this date will not be considered timely
- Even though ISAC may not be able to fully reimburse institutions for ING Grant awards, reporting of benefits used must still take place so that usage can be accurately reflected on students' accounts
- Colleges are encouraged to regularly check their Benefits Results report
- The 160-byte file specifications, describing the file layout to be used to send data to ISAC via the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) process, can be found in the Electronic Tools section of the e-Library

# Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG)

- IVG is an entitlement program
  - Eligible applicants are exempt from paying eligible tuition and mandatory fees
    - Mandatory fees is defined as: The charges assessed by an institution that are required to deliver educational services to students for each term, regardless if a student is attending on- campus or through distance education. Application, graduation, laboratory, breakage, add/drop fees, and program administrative fees for out-of-state or foreign study are specifically excluded. For the purposes of ISAC's rules, tuition is not a mandatory fee.
  - Benefits are available at all Illinois 2- and 4-year public colleges
  - May be used at the undergraduate and graduate levels
  - Eligible applicants may receive the equivalent of four academic years of full-time enrollment (120 units)
  - No minimum enrollment requirement
    - Non-credit courses may be eligible

# IVG Eligibility

- To be eligible, a student must:
  - Satisfy Illinois residency requirements by meeting the below qualifications as outlined *either* in #1, #2 and #3, *or* in #4:
    1. Currently reside in Illinois unless the student is serving federal active-duty service at the time of enrollment in college or residing with a spouse in continued military service who is currently stationed outside of Illinois.
    2. Were a resident of Illinois at the time of entering federal active-duty service or within six months prior to entering the service or were a student at an Illinois public 2- or 4-year college at the time of entering federal active-duty service.
    3. Established, or if on federal active-duty service, plan to establish Illinois residency within six months after leaving federal active-duty service, or if married to a person in continued military service:

**OR**

4. Reside in Illinois at the time of application and at the time of receiving benefits for enrollment and, at some point after leaving federal active-duty service, have been a resident of Illinois for at least 15 consecutive years.

# IVG Eligibility, continued

- To be eligible, a student must:
  - Meet one of the following two criteria:
    - have served at least one year of federal active-duty service in the Armed Forces of the United States, which may include the Illinois National Guard and the Reserve component of the Armed Forces, or
    - regardless of length of service, have served in a foreign country in a time of hostilities in that country (as recognized by the issuance of a Presidential proclamation or a Presidential executive order and in which the Armed Forces expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are awarded according to Presidential executive order); was medically discharged for service-related reasons; or was discharged prior to August 11, 1967.
  - Be enrolled at an Illinois public 2- or 4-year college.
  - Maintain an acceptable grade point average (GPA) according to the policy determined by your college.
  - Be enrolled in academic programs while incarcerated
  - Not be in default on any student loan, nor owe a refund on any state or federal grant.

# IVG Eligibility, continued

- To be eligible, a student must:
  - Have received an honorable discharge for the most recent period of federal active-duty service, and/or be honorably serving
    - Effective July 1, 2022, an honorable discharge may include a discharge under other than honorable conditions or a general discharge under honorable conditions if only due to a person's sexual orientation or gender identity but does not include a bad conduct discharge or a dishonorable discharge
  - Not be a current member of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)
    - Applicants are not eligible if their only service has been attendance at a service academy
    - Time served attending military schools or for Initial Active Duty for Training, in the Delayed Entry Program, National Guard, Reserve or any other time that was not federal active duty is not considered equal to federal active-duty service
    - Drill time (weekend and summer drills) by Guard members and Reservists is not equivalent to federal active-duty service

# IVG Eligibility Policies

- ISAC General Provisions - 2700.40 General Applicant Eligibility Requirements
  - [isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2700-General-Provisions.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2700-General-Provisions.pdf)
  - i) Except for grants pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2730 (Illinois National Guard Grant Program) (ING Grant) and 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2733 (Illinois Veteran Grant Program) (IVG Grant), an applicant must be maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the institution's policy.
- IVG Rules - Section 2733.20 Applicant Eligibility
  - [isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2733-IVG.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2733-IVG.pdf)
  - e) A recipient must maintain an acceptable grade point average as determined by the institution pursuant to a published policy.



# Applying for IVG

- Student only needs to complete the IVG once; it does not have to be submitted every award year
  - If there's a need to make changes/updates after submission, contact ISAC
- Applications can be accessed from the ISAC Student Portal
  - Students should allow at least 4 - 6 weeks for processing
- ISAC will send an acknowledgement e-mail when the application is received
- Qualified applicants must notify their college's financial aid office of their eligibility status, no later than the last scheduled day of classes for the term for which a grant is requested
- If applicant's application is complete, meets all eligibility criteria and has provided all required documentation, the qualified applicant is sent a Notice of Eligibility letter from ISAC
- If the application is incomplete, the applicant receives a Notice of Incomplete Application letter
  - Must return missing information/documents within 60 days to ISAC or application will be canceled

# IVG Residency Policies

- Legislation went into effect in July 2019 that amended the Illinois residency requirements for IVG, allowing for veterans who have resided in Illinois for at least 15 years to qualify, based on these requirements --
  - The veteran must:
    - reside in Illinois at the time of application
    - have been a resident of Illinois for at least 15 consecutive years after leaving federal active
    - reside in Illinois at the time of receiving benefits for enrollment
- Documentation to confirm 15 consecutive years of residency will be needed to establish eligibility

# IVG Residency Policies

- Regardless of how a student has qualified for the Illinois residency component of the program's eligibility criteria, the student veteran must reside in Illinois while enrolled to use IVG benefits
  - An IVG independent student does not have to be verified to have resided in Illinois for 12 continuous months prior to the start of the award year... the student just has to be currently residing in Illinois while enrolled in order to use IVG benefits
- Students who may have left Illinois after establishing their eligibility for the program may maintain their IVG eligibility, but must return to Illinois to continue to use benefits
- Students who are not residing in Illinois while enrolled cannot use IVG benefits unless:
  - federal active duty is being served during the time of enrollment, or
  - the qualified applicant is residing with a spouse in continued military service who is currently stationed outside of Illinois

# IVG Residency Policies

- For schools that have a process requiring student veterans to provide information on which veteran benefits they want to use, they may collect confirmation that the student is residing in Illinois as part of that process
- Best practice would be to have a certification statement as part of the form that the student is signing each term, allowing the student to confirm benefit choices and provide Illinois residency information
  - This would be sufficient documentation to confirm that the student meets the IVG requirement to reside in Illinois while using benefits
- Other documentation to confirm residency may include:
  - FAFSA/ISIR data indicating an Illinois address
  - Documentation used to confirm residency for other ISAC programs with dates applicable to the term/award year
- If an institution has information on file for a student (student billing address, transcript request, etc.) indicating an out-of-state address, the institution is expected to verify residency by collecting documentation to confirm that the student is currently residing in Illinois while enrolled in order to provide IVG benefits

# IVG Benefit Usage Reporting

- IVG benefit request process is done in the IVG system in GAP Access
- Schools must report enrollment hours and benefit dollar amounts for initial, supplemental (adjustments), in-district and out-of-district claims
- School provide the number credit hours enrolled and tuition and fee amounts
- If combining benefits with the Post-9/11 GI Benefit, the eligibility percentage (as determined by the VA) should also be provided
  - The system will multiply the number of credit hours the student is enrolled in by the percentage being covered by IVG to prorate units

Terms	3-Summer	1-Fall	2-Spring
IVG Code	001	001	001
Request	<input type="text"/>	Benefit <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Enrollment Hours	<input type="text"/>	12.00	<input type="text"/>
In District Tuition and Fees	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ 2218.64	\$ <input type="text"/>
Out of District Tuition	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
Requested Amount	\$	\$2218.64	\$
Post 9/11 %	<input type="text"/>	60	<input type="text"/>

A drop-down list includes percentage values to report an IVG recipient's eligibility level for Post-9/11 GI Bill, ranging from 40% to 90%

40  
50  
60  
70  
80

In the Tuition & Fees fields, schools should

# Benefit Add IVG Student screen

- In order to add a student to your school list, at least two of the three student identifiers must be entered
- If the search does not provide a result, that means either the student is not eligible or is not in ISAC's database
  - For example, a school would not be able to add a student whose IVG application is in process and has not yet been determined to be eligible or an applicant whose status may have changed from eligible to ineligible
- If a college is unable to locate a student that should be in ISAC's IVG database, colleges may contact ISAC's School Services Department for assistance at 866-247-2172 or [isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov](mailto:isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov)

Administration School Programs

IVG Benefit Add IVG Student

Home Application Benefits Budget Reports File Extractions

List Filter Sort Columns Add Student Benefit Request Entry Submit Benefit Requests

SSN:

IVG Number:

Last Name:

# 2024-25 IVG Grant Program News

- No changes to the application or application process
- Benefit request processing for summer and fall terms is now available
  - IVG award year starts with the summer term
- In order for IVG benefit usage data to be considered timely:
  - For the summer term, it must be submitted by September 30
  - For the fall term, it must be submitted by December 31
- Even though ISAC may not be able to fully reimburse institutions IVG awards reporting of benefits used must still take place so that usage can be accurately reflected on students' accounts
- Colleges are encouraged to regularly check their Benefits Results report
- The 160-byte file specifications, describing the file layout for sending data to ISAC via the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) process, can be found in the Electronic Tools section of the e-Library

# ING Grant, IVG, and the Monetary Award Program (MAP)

- If a student who is eligible for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) is also eligible for ING Grant and/or IVG benefits, all ING Grant and IVG benefits that are available for the term(s) must be used first
  - A student cannot decline ING Grant or IVG benefits in favor of using MAP benefits
  - After all applicable ING Grant benefits have been used for a term, then a partial MAP award may be applied to any outstanding eligible tuition and fees
  - IVG and MAP are not able to be combined
    - Once a student is determined eligible for IVG, it must be used instead of MAP



# Combining Post-9/11 GI Bill Program with State Benefits

- Students can decline IVG, ING and/or MAP to use federal benefits that also provide tuition and fee benefits
  - **Federal benefits will be applied first** and any remaining eligible charges for tuition and fees may be covered by ING Grant or IVG benefits
- If a student chooses to use their federal benefits with ING or IVG benefits, eligibility units assessed will be prorated based on the percentage of charges paid by ING or IVG
  - The percentage of charges covered by ING or IVG benefits will be multiplied by the number of credit hours in which the student is enrolled for the term, and that converted number of credit hours will determine the number of eligibility units to be assessed

# Combining Post-9/11 GI Bill Program with State Benefits

- For veterans who are eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and who choose to use those benefits with the IVG or ING Grant programs in the same term, the **Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits may be applied first** (VA will be first payer), and any remaining eligible tuition and fee charges would be covered by the IVG and/or ING Grant.
- IVG and ING rules allow the VA to be first payer for any level of Chapter 33 eligibility, **including the 100% level**.
  - For example, students at the 100% level who don't have enough VA benefits for a full term could use up remaining Chapter 33 benefits first and then use IVG or ING to cover remaining charges.
- When combining IVG and/or ING benefits with the Post-9/11 GI Bill:
  - The number of IVG and ING Grant units used will be prorated for students at the 50-90% eligibility levels.
  - IVG and ING units are not to be prorated for students at the 100% eligibility level.

# Combining Post-9/11 GI Bill Program with State Benefits

From IVG rules, Section 2733.40 Institutional Procedures

[isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-ISAC-Rules/2733-IVG.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-ISAC-Rules/2733-IVG.pdf)

- b) If a student is eligible for, and has indicated to the institution the intent to receive educational assistance through, the Post-9/11 GI Bill (38 USC, Chapter 33), the institution must first apply Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to the student's financial aid award. IVG benefits can then be used to cover the remaining IVG eligible tuition and mandatory fees.

From ING rules, Section 2730.40 Institutional Procedures

[isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2730-ING.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/administrative-rules/2023-24-isac-rules/2730-ING.pdf)

- b) If a student is eligible for, and has indicated to the institution the intent to receive, educational assistance through the Post-9/11 GI Bill (38 USC, Chapter 33), the institution must first apply Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to the student's financial aid award. ING Grant benefits can then be used to cover the remaining ING Grant eligible tuition and fees.

# Fiscal Year 2025 News for ING Grant and IVG

- The FY25 state budget includes funding through ISAC to reimburse public universities for some of the tuition fees waived for IVG & ING Grant recipients
- Unlike in years past, when IVG and ING each had a separate line item and ISAC used the funds to pay both public university and community college claims, this appropriation is for \$6 million and is written as applying to both IVG and ING, but only at the state's public universities.
- As has been the case for several years, a separate FY25 appropriation of \$4,264,200 is being provided to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) to reimburse community colleges for ING Grant and IVG benefits provided

# 2024-25 MAP

- Program Funding
  - The 2025 fiscal year (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) appropriation for MAP is \$711,566,200
- MAP Recompute Formula was approved at the June 20, 2024 Commission Meeting
  - Continues to use **FY22 tuition and fees** and **FY22 Pell** (as a student resource) in the formula
  - **Maximum award amount of \$8,400**
  - Living allowance \$5,200
  - The approved FY25 Recompute Formula, as well as corresponding hand calculations forms, may be accessed at [isac.org](https://isac.org)
- Payment processing will become available at the end of this month
  - Reminder: MAP payment requests are expected to be submitted on correct ISIR transactions
  - ISAC is aware that many initial 2024-25 ISIRs had various errors due to ED issues, and that initial award offers may have been made based on those, however, MAP payment requests should be submitted on corrected ISIR transactions

## Monetary Award Program (MAP)

### Program News

*(last updated August 5, 2024)*

- [2024-25 Program Funding](#)
- [2024-25 Recompute Formula](#)
- [2024-25 Start-up Implementation](#)
- [2024-25 Alternative Application Student Record School File Layout Specifications](#)
- [2024-25 Operational Guide for Alternative Application Processing](#)
- [2024-25 Award Announcements](#)
- [2024-25 Start-up Formula](#)
- [2024-25 File Layout Specifications](#)
- [Additional MAP References](#)

### 2024-25

#### Program Funding

The 2025 fiscal year (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025) (MAP) is \$711,566,200.

#### Monetary Award Program (MAP)

[Program Overview](#)

[Applying](#)

[Suspense](#)

[Eligibility](#)

[Award Announcements](#)

[Formula](#)

[MAP Paid Credit Hours](#)

[Special Enrollment Circumstances](#)

[Budget Reporting](#)

[Payment](#)

[Reconciliation](#)

[MAP Electronic Processing](#)

## Application Procedures for MAP

{ISAC Rules, Section 2735.30}

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA®\)](#)
- [Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid](#)
  - [Students Correcting Alternative Applications](#)
  - [Dependency Status Overrides](#)
  - [Financial Aid Administrators Correcting Alternative Applications](#)

### Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

The [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA®\)](#) serves as the application for the MAP grant. Each student who reports Illinois as their state of legal residence automatically applies for MAP when completing the FAFSA annually. The FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible after it becomes available\* for the academic year for which assistance is being requested. 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 FAFSAs by that academic year's priority deadline date (set by ISAC annually) will receive priority access to appropriated MAP funds.

#### Monetary Award Program (MAP)

[Program Overview](#)

[Applying](#)

[2024-25 Critical Data](#)

[SSN Changes](#)

[2024-25 Operational Guide For Alternative Application](#)

[Suspense](#)

[Eligibility](#)

[Award Announcements](#)

[Formula](#)

[MAP Paid Credit Hours](#)

[Special Enrollment Circumstances](#)

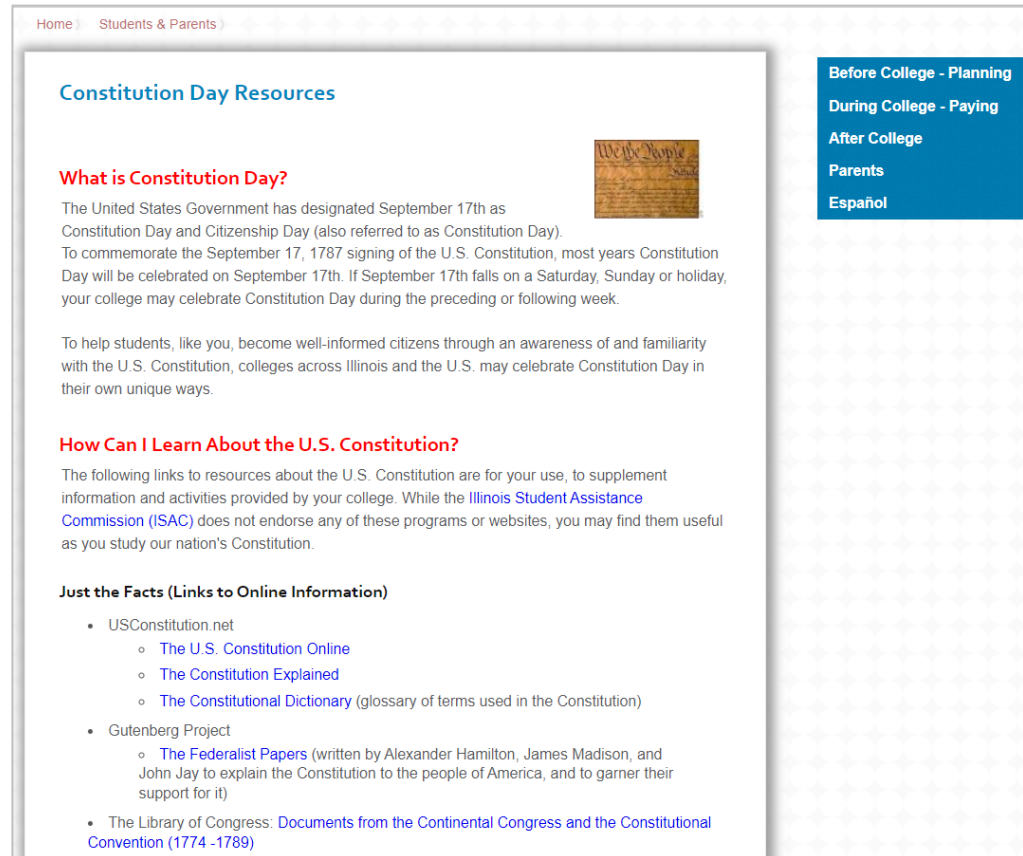
[Budget Reporting](#)

# ISAC Program Reviews Extended

- Temporary pause of ISAC programs reviews extended through September 30, 2024 – results of ED extending their routine program reviews through September 2024
  - Following guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education in a July 30, 2024, electronic announcement (GENERAL-24-96), which includes an extension of the previously-announced pause of program reviews, ISAC has also extended (through September 30, 2024) the temporary pause of new routine program reviews and responses, reports or requests for additional documentation for schools currently undergoing a review. Schools are encouraged to continue working with ISAC's Program Review team
  - July 30, 2024, ED electronic announcement (GENERAL-24-96):  
[fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-07-30/update-batch-corrections-institutions-electronic-data-exchange-flexibilities-and-additional-support-2024-25-fafsa-cycle](https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-07-30/update-batch-corrections-institutions-electronic-data-exchange-flexibilities-and-additional-support-2024-25-fafsa-cycle)

# Constitution Day – September 17

- Find resources to help develop programs for the annual observance of Constitution Day
- Access to the Constitution Day Resources page for students, via the Constitution and Citizenship Day document located in the e-Library's Job Aids & Reference Materials area
- Required of institutions receiving federal funding, educational programs about the U.S. Constitution are to be held on (or around) September 17 every year.



The screenshot shows a web page titled "Constitution Day Resources" with a navigation menu on the right. The menu includes links for "Before College - Planning", "During College - Paying", "After College", "Parents", and "Español". The main content area has a header "Constitution Day Resources" and a sub-header "What is Constitution Day?". Below this, it states that the U.S. Government has designated September 17th as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. It also mentions that to commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the U.S. Constitution, most years Constitution Day will be celebrated on September 17th. If September 17th falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, your college may celebrate Constitution Day during the preceding or following week. A small image of the Constitution is shown. Below this, it says "To help students, like you, become well-informed citizens through an awareness of and familiarity with the U.S. Constitution, colleges across Illinois and the U.S. may celebrate Constitution Day in their own unique ways." The next section is "How Can I Learn About the U.S. Constitution?" and it lists links to resources about the U.S. Constitution. The final section is "Just the Facts (Links to Online Information)" and it lists several links to online resources.

Home > Students & Parents >

## Constitution Day Resources

**What is Constitution Day?**

The United States Government has designated September 17th as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (also referred to as Constitution Day). To commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the U.S. Constitution, most years Constitution Day will be celebrated on September 17th. If September 17th falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, your college may celebrate Constitution Day during the preceding or following week.

To help students, like you, become well-informed citizens through an awareness of and familiarity with the U.S. Constitution, colleges across Illinois and the U.S. may celebrate Constitution Day in their own unique ways.

**How Can I Learn About the U.S. Constitution?**

The following links to resources about the U.S. Constitution are for your use, to supplement information and activities provided by your college. While the [Illinois Student Assistance Commission \(ISAC\)](#) does not endorse any of these programs or websites, you may find them useful as you study our nation's Constitution.

**Just the Facts (Links to Online Information)**

- USConstitution.net
  - [The U.S. Constitution Online](#)
  - [The Constitution Explained](#)
  - [The Constitutional Dictionary](#) (glossary of terms used in the Constitution)
- Gutenberg Project
  - [The Federalist Papers](#) (written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay to explain the Constitution to the people of America, and to garner their support for it)
- The Library of Congress: [Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention \(1774 -1789\)](#)

[isac.org/students/constitution-day-resources.html](https://isac.org/students/constitution-day-resources.html)

[isac.org/e-library/job-aids-and-reference-materials/index.html](https://isac.org/e-library/job-aids-and-reference-materials/index.html)

[isac.org/e-library/documents/job-aids-reference-materials/ConstitutionDay.pdf](https://isac.org/e-library/documents/job-aids-reference-materials/ConstitutionDay.pdf)



# 2025-26 ISAC Programs

- The 2025-26 MAP Start-Up Formula will be an agenda item at the September 19, 2024 Commission Meeting
- The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid for the 2025-26 academic year will coincide with the launch of the 2025-26 FAFSA
  - 2025-26 FAFSA is expected to be available by December 2024
  - [fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-08-07/2025-26-fafsa-processing-timeline-update](https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-08-07/2025-26-fafsa-processing-timeline-update)

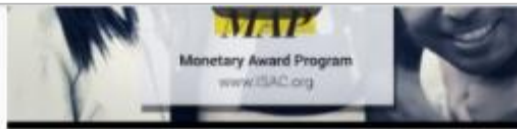


The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid Knowledge Center website. The header includes the Federal Student Aid logo and navigation links: KNOWLEDGE CENTER, TRAINING, FINANCIAL AID DELIVERY, TITLE IV PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY, and PARTNER CONNECT SERVICES. Below the header is a dark blue bar with 'What's New', 'Library' (selected), and 'Topics' tabs, along with a search bar labeled 'Search Knowledge Center'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: Knowledge Center Home > Library > Electronic Announcements > 2025-26 FAFSA Processing Timeline Update. The title '(GENERAL-24-99) 2025-26 FAFSA Processing Timeline Update' is prominently displayed. A 'Print' button is visible on the left. The announcement text states: 'POSTED DATE: August 07, 2024', 'AUTHOR: Federal Student Aid', 'ELECTRONIC ANNOUNCEMENT ID: GENERAL-24-99', and 'SUBJECT: 2025-26 FAFSA Processing Timeline Update'. The body text explains that this electronic announcement provides an update for institutions, states, and vendors on processing 2025-26 FAFSA forms. It mentions that the Department announced that, on October 1, the Department will release the 2025-26 FAFSA form and ISIR processing for testing with a limited set of students and institutions. The Department will make the application available to all students on or before December 1, 2024. Using this approach, the Department will launch full functionality, including submission, processing, and corrections at the same time. On the right side, there is a 'Tags' section with buttons for 'Electronic Announcements', 'All Title IV Federal Student Aid...', 'General', and 'Overview of Title IV'.

# ISAC Resources

- ISAC e-messaging
  - Subscription-based service
  - Messages archived in the E-Library
- ISAC Administrative Rules
- FAA section of [isac.org](http://isac.org)
  - Program news
- User guides
- Partner Training page in the E-Library
  - Monthly webinar presentations
  - Illinois residency FAQ

# isac.org



and parents statewide in helping them navigate the process of education after high school, financial aid, college search and admissions, and more.

**Contact the ISACorps member in your area**

Are you a recent college graduate passionate about public service and giving back to the community? Looking for a job? **Join the ISACorps**



## Quick 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



### Email Lists

- ☐ Military Service Members/Veterans - general and processing updates and announcements about military service programs
- ☐ Parents - information and announcements about financial aid and ISAC programs
- ☐ Students - information and announcements about financial aid and ISAC programs
- ☐ Teaching Professionals/Education Major Students - general and processing updates and announcements for current teachers and students planning to become teachers

800.899.ISAC (4722)

## e-Messaging

Get the latest news & updates from ISAC

## Order ISAC Materials

## Applications



# isac.org/students/during-college/military-service

The screenshot shows the ISAC website with a navigation bar at the top containing links: Before College - Planning, During College - Paying (highlighted in red), After College, Parents, and Español. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Students & Parents > During College - Paying > Military Service. The main content area is titled "Military Service" and contains a paragraph about the page's purpose, followed by sections for "ISAC Programs" and "State of Illinois Programs". The "ISAC Programs" section includes links for the Illinois National Guard (ING) Grant Program and the Illinois Veteran Grant (IVG) Program, each with a link to view a recording of a review process. The "State of Illinois Programs" section includes links for the MIA/POW Scholarship and the Educational Opportunities Grant for Children of Veterans. On the right side, there is a blue sidebar with a list of topics: Paying For College, Applying For Financial Aid, Types Of Financial Aid, Advanced Degree, Medical Professions, Military Service (highlighted with a red box), College Planning & Financial Aid Resources For Illinois Servicemembers, Veterans And Their Families, and Teaching.

Before College - Planning **During College - Paying** After College Parents Español

Home > Students & Parents > During College - Paying > Military Service

## Military Service

If you're interested in entering the military, are currently serving, or have completed your service, the information on this page is intended to help you learn more about the education benefits and resources that may be available to you. Be sure to research both state and federal programs to find the resources that best match your military experience and educational goals. Additionally, you'll find links to other resources that may be helpful to you as you pursue your educational goals.

### ISAC Programs

[Illinois National Guard \(ING\) Grant Program](#) – Covers tuition and certain fees at Illinois public institutions for active members of the Illinois National Guard who meet program eligibility criteria.

- [View a recording of "A Review of the ING Grant Application Process"](#)

[Illinois Veteran Grant \(IVG\) Program](#) – Covers tuition and mandatory fees at Illinois public institutions for veterans who meet program eligibility criteria.

- [View a recording of "A Review of the IVG Application Process"](#)

### State of Illinois Programs

[Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs \(IDVA\)](#) – General information and diverse resources for Illinois veterans

- [MIA/POW Scholarship](#) – For dependents of veterans who are either Missing In Action, a Prisoner of War, died while on active duty, 100% disabled due to service connected disabilities, or died as a result of a service connected disabilities
- [Educational Opportunities Grant for Children of Veterans](#) – Financial aid provided to each child, between the ages of 10 and 18 years, of a veteran who died or became totally disabled as

#### Paying For College

#### Applying For Financial Aid

#### Types Of Financial Aid

#### Advanced Degree

#### Medical Professions

#### **Military Service**

- [College Planning & Financial Aid Resources For Illinois Servicemembers, Veterans And Their Families](#)

#### Teaching

# isac.org/students/during-college/military-service

## Federal Resources

[U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#) – Information and resources for all veterans on the GI Bill, health care, and disability support.

- [VA Crisis Hot Line](#) – 1-800-273-8255 or [www.veteranscrisisline.net/](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/) Available 24/7.
- [GI Bill Benefits](#) – Learn about the GI Bill benefits that can help you pay for college, graduate school, and training programs.

[U.S. Department of Education](#) – Provides information and access for all levels of education.

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) – Apply for federal student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education.
- [Aid for Military Families](#) – A compilation of financial aid resources and information for service members and their families.
- [Student loan repayment, forgiveness, cancellation and discharges](#) – Information on managing student loans and qualifying for programs to help eliminate student loan debt
  - [Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program](#)

## Other Military-Connected Resources

[Military OneSource](#) – Offers practical information and resources for pursuing education goals, and also provides a wide range of support and confidential services to Department of Defense service members and immediate family members.

[Illinois Veterans Assistance Commissions \(VACs\)](#) – Access these local resources in your county that provide services to veterans and their families and can help with benefit claims, advocacy, financial assistance and legal resources.

## Illinois Postsecondary Institutions

Most colleges have a resource page on their website specifically for military-connected students and families. Below are links to resource pages for the public universities in Illinois, followed by resources to learn more about all postsecondary institutions in the state.

### Illinois Public Universities

- Chicago State University – [csu.edu/veteransaffairs/](http://csu.edu/veteransaffairs/)
- Eastern Illinois University – [eiu.edu/veterans/](http://eiu.edu/veterans/)
- Governors State University – [govst.edu/vrc/](http://govst.edu/vrc/)
- Illinois State University [veterans.illinoisstate.edu/financial\\_aid/](http://veterans.illinoisstate.edu/financial_aid/)

# ISAC's Student Engagement & Support Services

For inquiries from students, parents, and the general public

Phone: 800-899-ISAC (4722)

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: [isac.studentservices@illinois.gov](mailto:isac.studentservices@illinois.gov)

Spanish-speaking counselors are available

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

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## **Call Center Reps**

Anit Chacko

Bertha Esquivel

Ghouse Farooqi

Manju Thomas

Larry Thompson

# ISAC's Partner Services Department

- Provides training, program information and support to schools and other ISAC partners
- Partners with ILASFAA and other professional organizations
- Responds to school inquiries, both colleges and high schools

Phone: 866-247-2172

Fax: 847-831-8549

E-mail: [isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov](mailto:isac.schoolservices@illinois.gov)

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## Partner Services Staff

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# Questions/Comments

