

ISAC Initiatives

Redefining the High School to College Transition in Illinois

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

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Illinois Student Assistance Commission

- ← ISAC—State agency that awards approximately \$370M annually in state grants and scholarships
 - ← Mission Statement: *Making college accessible and affordable for Illinois students*
 - ← Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant
 - ← Need-based grant
 - ← Awarded to approximately 150,000 students each year
 - ← Awards are suspended relatively early in the year due to limited funds (we run out of money!)
 - ← Initiatives and Services Provided for Free
-



Statewide ISAC Initiatives

- ← College Application Month
- ← ISAC Student Portal
 - ← Scholarship Search
 - ← Financial Literacy
 - ← Award Letter Comparison
 - ← Calculators: EFC calculator & MAP estimator
- ← The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Initiative
- ← ISACorps
- ← Professional Development Workshops

College Application Month

- Part of the American College Application Campaign to get students that may not typically apply or apply late to college to apply and to apply on time
- Application workshops held during the school day
- Helps build a college going culture
- Promotes involvement of teachers and other school staff not normally involved with college applications
- October 2014 was designated College Application Month in Illinois
 - 98 high schools
 - 82 cities
 - 299 workshops
 - 6,600+ students participated



www.collegechangeseverything.org/appmonth

ISAC's Student Portal

- Scholarship & College Search
 - Emphasis on local scholarships
 - Provides list of scholarships based on profile created by student
 - Detailed information on colleges & majors
- Financial Literacy Modules—Money Management
- Interactive Award Letter Comparison Tool
- EFC & MAP calculators
- Career Exploration

The screenshot displays the ISAC Student Portal website. At the top, the ISAC logo and 'STUDENT PORTAL' text are on the left, while user status ('You are currently visiting the Student Portal as a Guest'), links to 'ISAC.org', 'Contact', and 'Sign In', and a registration prompt are on the right. A dark blue navigation bar contains four main categories: 'College & Scholarship Search', 'Money Management', 'Financial Aid Planning & Applying', and 'Career & Job Search'. The main content area features a 'College Planning Made Easy' section with motivational text and a 'So what do you do next?' paragraph. To the right is a large, detailed chalkboard diagram illustrating the career development process, including concepts like 'EMPLOYMENT', 'EDUCATION', 'CAREER', 'GOALS', 'DREAM JOB', 'LEARN', 'WORKERS', and 'RECRUITING'. A woman is shown interacting with the chalkboard. At the bottom of the page is a photograph of four diverse students walking outdoors.

studentportal.isac.org

FAFSA Completion Initiative

- Began with Chicago Public Schools in 2007
 - CPS students who completed a FAFSA by May were 50% more likely to attend college*
 - Currently receive weekly FAFSA status reports
- Expanded to rest of the state
 - 10 school districts
 - 163 individual high schools
 - 360 total high schools encompassed by program
- Directory information is used to conduct match
 - Name
 - Date of birth
 - HS attending
- Research agreement can be downloaded from website
- FAFSA data is sent to school/district on monthly or bi-monthly basis depending on need
 - Individual FAFSA status
 - Aggregate data on senior class
 - Student file is encrypted
- National model

*Roderick, M., Nagaoka, J., Coca, V., Moeller, E., et al. (2008) *From High School to the Future: Potholes on the Road to College* Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago.

2015-16 FAFSA Completion Initiative

Important information for High Schools

Total value of MAP and Pell if all eligible Illinois students receive grants.

\$ **1.6067** BILLION

Unfortunately, MAP will be available to less than half of the eligible students.

[Learn More](#)

Student Portal | College Illinois!® | B4College Alerts | FAFSA 2015-16 | **FAFSA Initiative**

60 X 25 ISAC's Big Goal | College Changes Everything | MAP Advising | MAP Matters

Featured

ISAC STUDENT PORTAL

- College Illinois!® Prepaid Tuition Program Enrollment Period Now Open
- 2015-16 MAP Suspense FAQ's

On the path to college? ISAC can help...

...every step of the way! ISAC is committed to helping make college more accessible and affordable for Illinois families. In addition to grant and scholarship administration, our prepaid tuition program, and the online resources we provide, ISAC's college access and outreach initiatives provide direct assistance to students and families in navigating the college-going and financial aid process. Check out our free resources, including in-person assistance from our ISACorps.

www.isac.org

2015-16 FAFSA Completion Initiative

We're working with school districts across the state to help identify which of their students have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in their pursuit of financial aid for college.

[More Information](#)

[Research Agreement](#)

MAP* \$ **6067** MILLION

Pell* \$ **1.0000** BILLION

Total* \$ **1.6067** BILLION

While MAP is among the largest need-based financial assistance program in the nation, the same application that qualifies students for this state grant also brings over \$1.2 billion in federal Pell dollars into Illinois every year. Through the federal program, students from low-income families can receive up to \$5,775 per year to pay for tuition and fees, room and board, living expenses, books, supplies, transportation, child care and other costs of college attendance. A full MAP grant plus a full Pell grant could give a low income student over \$10,000 per year toward his/her cost of attendance.

Find a Local Financial Aid Workshop

FAFSA completions by school - 2015-16

Region	County	District	HS Name	HS City	# FAFSA	% Completed
01	Adams	001	Seymour High School	Payson	12	46
01	Adams	002	Liberty High School	Liberty	34	71
01	Adams	003	Central HS - Camp Point	Camp Point	34	53
01	Adams	004	Unity High School - Mendon	Mendon	21	51
01	Adams	012	Quincy Notre Dame High School	Quincy	45	73
01	Adams	172	Quincy Sr High School	Quincy	173	41
01	Pike	004	Griggsville-Perry High School	Griggsville	12	55
01	Pike	010	Pittsfield High School	Pittsfield	40	53

www.isac.org/home/fafsa/

Student List – Sample

EXTERNALID	APP_STATUS	APP_DATE	APP_VERIFIED	MAP_ELIG
STUDENT 00001	FILED, HAS EFC	20140123	N	Y
STUDENT 00002	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00003	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00004	FILED, HAS EFC	20140102	N	Y
STUDENT 00005	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00006	FILED, HAS EFC	20140107	N	N
STUDENT 00007	FILED, HAS EFC	20140104	N	Y
STUDENT 00008	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00009	FILED, NO EFC	20140116		
STUDENT 00010	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00011	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00012	FILED, HAS EFC	20140110	N	Y
STUDENT 00013	FILED, HAS EFC	20140113	N	Y
STUDENT 00014	FILED, HAS EFC	20140123	N	Y
STUDENT 00015	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00016	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00017	FILED, HAS EFC	20140114	N	Y
STUDENT 00018	FILED, NO EFC	20140103		
STUDENT 00019	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00020	FILED, HAS EFC	20140214	N	N
STUDENT 00021	FILED, HAS EFC	20140101	N	N
STUDENT 00022	FILED, HAS EFC	20140102	N	Y
STUDENT 00023	FILED, HAS EFC	20140103	Y	Y
STUDENT 00024	FILED, HAS EFC	20140108	N	Y
STUDENT 00025	FILED, NO EFC	20140223		
STUDENT 00026	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00027	FILED, HAS EFC	20140110	N	N
STUDENT 00028	FILED, HAS EFC	20140123	Y	Y
STUDENT 00029	FILED, HAS EFC	20140206	N	Y
STUDENT 00030	NO FAFSA FILED			
STUDENT 00031	FILED, HAS EFC	20140102	N	N
STUDENT 00032	FILED, HAS EFC	20140208	N	Y
STUDENT 00033	FILED, HAS EFC	20140103	N	Y
STUDENT 00034	NO FAFSA FILED			

The FAFSA Report – Sample

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
2012 SENIOR FY2013 FAFSA FILING - THROUGH APRIL 23, 2012
SMALL SIZE HIGH SCHOOL

FAFSA	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
NOT FILED	2	6.06	2	6.06
FILED	31	93.94	33	100.00

FILING STATUS

FILING	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
FILED, HAS EFC	29	87.88	29	87.88
FILED, NO EFC	2	6.06	31	93.94
NO FAFSA FILED	2	6.06	33	100.00

DEPENDENCY STATUS

APPTYP	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
DEPENDENT	26	83.87	26	83.87
INDEPENDENT	3	9.68	29	93.55
INCOMPLETE DEP	1	3.23	30	96.77
INCOMPLETE IND	1	3.23	31	100.00

Frequency Missing = 2

ELIGIBLE FOR PELL

PELLELIG	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
N	5	16.13	5	16.13
Y	26	83.87	31	100.00

Frequency Missing = 2

The FAFSA Report – Page 2

ELIGIBLE FOR MAP

MAPELIG	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
N	3	10.34	3	10.34
Y	26	89.66	29	100.00

Frequency Missing = 4

SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION

VERIFY	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
N	17	54.84	17	54.84
Y	14	45.16	31	100.00

Frequency Missing = 2

FIRST-CHOICE SCHOOL		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
001650-City Colleges Of Chicago-Malcolm X	-IL	3	9.68	3	9.68
001652-Harold Washington College	-IL	3	9.68	6	19.35
001671-Depaul University	-IL	3	9.68	9	29.03
001693-Northeastern Illinois Univ	-IL	3	9.68	12	38.71
001750-Dominican University	-IL	3	9.68	15	48.39
003861-Marian University	-WI	3	9.68	18	58.06
001674-Eastern Illinois University	-IL	1	3.23	19	61.29
001692-Illinois State University	-IL	1	3.23	20	64.52
001709-Lincoln College	-IL	1	3.23	21	67.74
001710-Loyola University Chicago	-IL	1	3.23	22	70.97
001749-Roosevelt University	-IL	1	3.23	23	74.19
001767-Benedictine University	-IL	1	3.23	24	77.42
001807-Indiana State University	-IN	1	3.23	25	80.65
001825-Purdue University	-IN	1	3.23	26	83.87
001835-Saint Mary-Of-The-Woods College	-IN	1	3.23	27	87.10
001892-University Of Iowa	-IA	1	3.23	28	90.32
003133-Urbana University	-OH	1	3.23	29	93.55
003863-Marquette University	-WI	1	3.23	30	96.77
010395-University Of San Diego	-CA	1	3.23	31	100.00

Frequency Missing = 2

FAFSA Completion Initiative: CPS History

Senior Class	FAFSA Year	% completing FAFSA	MAP Suspense date
2006	FY2007	57.5%	8/26/2006
2007	FY2008*	62.2%	8/16/2007
2008	FY2009	68.0%	7/26/2008
2009	FY2010	74.8%	5/15/2009
2010	FY2011	82.3%	4/19/2010
2011	FY2012	86.3%	3/26/2011
2012	FY2013^	77.6%	3/20/2012
2013	FY2014	79.0%	3/2/2013
2014	FY2015	80.0%	2/28/2014
2015	FY2016	74% (as of 3/19/15)	2/22/2015
*Program began with the class of 2007 completing FY2008 FAFSAs.			
^Prior to FY13 matching was done using SSNs. CPS sent a list of seniors for whom an SSN was available. In FY13 the matching is done with names and DOB so the list includes all seniors.			

Replicating The Formula

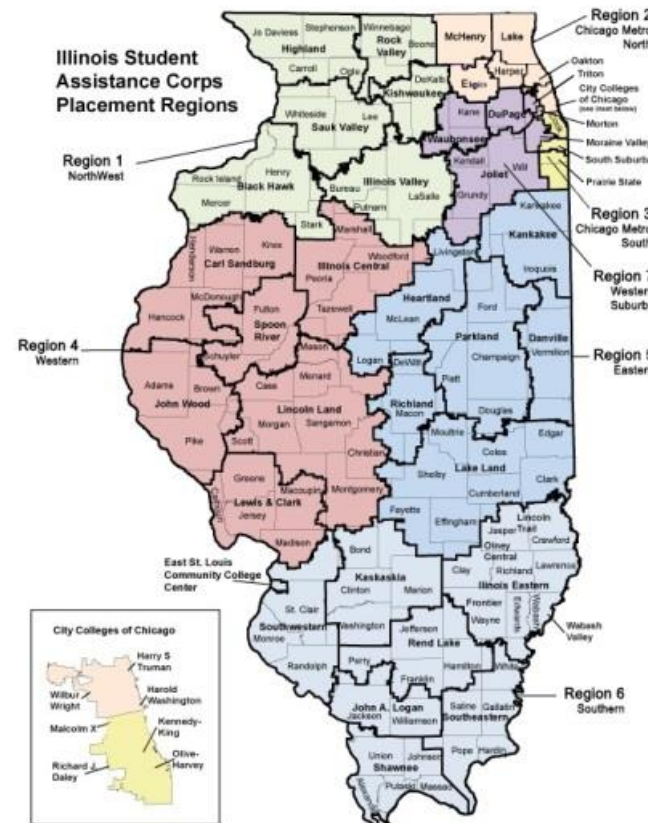
	HS seniors in Illinois filing FAFSAs by early May of senior year	FAFSAs completed by HS seniors by early May	Number of high schools encompassed by FAFSA Completion Initiative
<i>2009 seniors filing FY10 FAFSA</i>	48%	70,953	133
<i>2010 seniors filing FY11 FAFSA</i>	52%	77,455	138
<i>2011 seniors filing FY12 FAFSA</i>	55%	80,994	143
<i>2012 seniors filing FY13 FAFSA</i>	57%	88,033	225
<i>2013 seniors filing FY14 FAFSA</i>	58%	91,622	268
<i>2014 seniors filing FY15 FAFSA</i>	58%	91,829	338
<i>2015 seniors filing FY16 FAFSA</i>	55%	85,360 <i>(as of 3/26/15)</i>	360

Approximately 150,000 high school seniors every year



Illinois Student Assistance Corps (ISACorps)

- Approximately 80 recent college graduates hired to be near-peer mentors
- Corps members are asked for a two-year commitment
- Corps members are placed throughout the state
- Target population is first-generation and/or low income students
- Corps use their experience and enthusiasm to connect, encourage, and assist students with the college going process
- Increased our ability to conduct outreach and drive FAFSA completion



www.isac.org/students/before-college/isacorps

Professional Development for Staff

- ISAC provides professional development series
 - Fundamentals of financial aid
 - Line-by-line review of the FAFSA
 - Hand calculation of an EFC
 - Working with special student population & special circumstances
 - “FAFSA Expert” manual—compilation of documents referenced in the FAFSA
- Certification of attendees
 - Assessment after each module
 - 80% pass rate results in attendee earning certificate from ISAC
- Incentives for participation in professional development workshops
 - Continuing education credits provided to attendees
 - Provided at no cost to attendees
 - Workshops are held throughout the state and on multiple dates

The screenshot shows the ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission) website. The header includes the ISAC logo and navigation links: COUNSELORS, E-LIBRARY, FAFSA'S, GAP ACCESS, LEGISLATORS, and a SEARCH bar. A sidebar on the left contains links: HOME, STUDENTS & PARENTS >, COLLEGE ILLINOIS! >, RESEARCH & POLICY >, NEWSROOM, and ABOUT ISAC >. The main content area features the title "2014-15 Annual Financial Aid Certification Program & Professional Development" and a sub-header "Financial Aid Training Brought to You by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission". The text describes the program's purpose, its inclusion in the National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM), and the benefits for participants, including CE and CPDU credits. A red button at the bottom right says "REGISTER NOW".

www.isac.org/financialaidcertification

For The Mission

Making college accessible and affordable for
Illinois students

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