

USER GUIDE: COMPLETING THE 2027-28 ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID

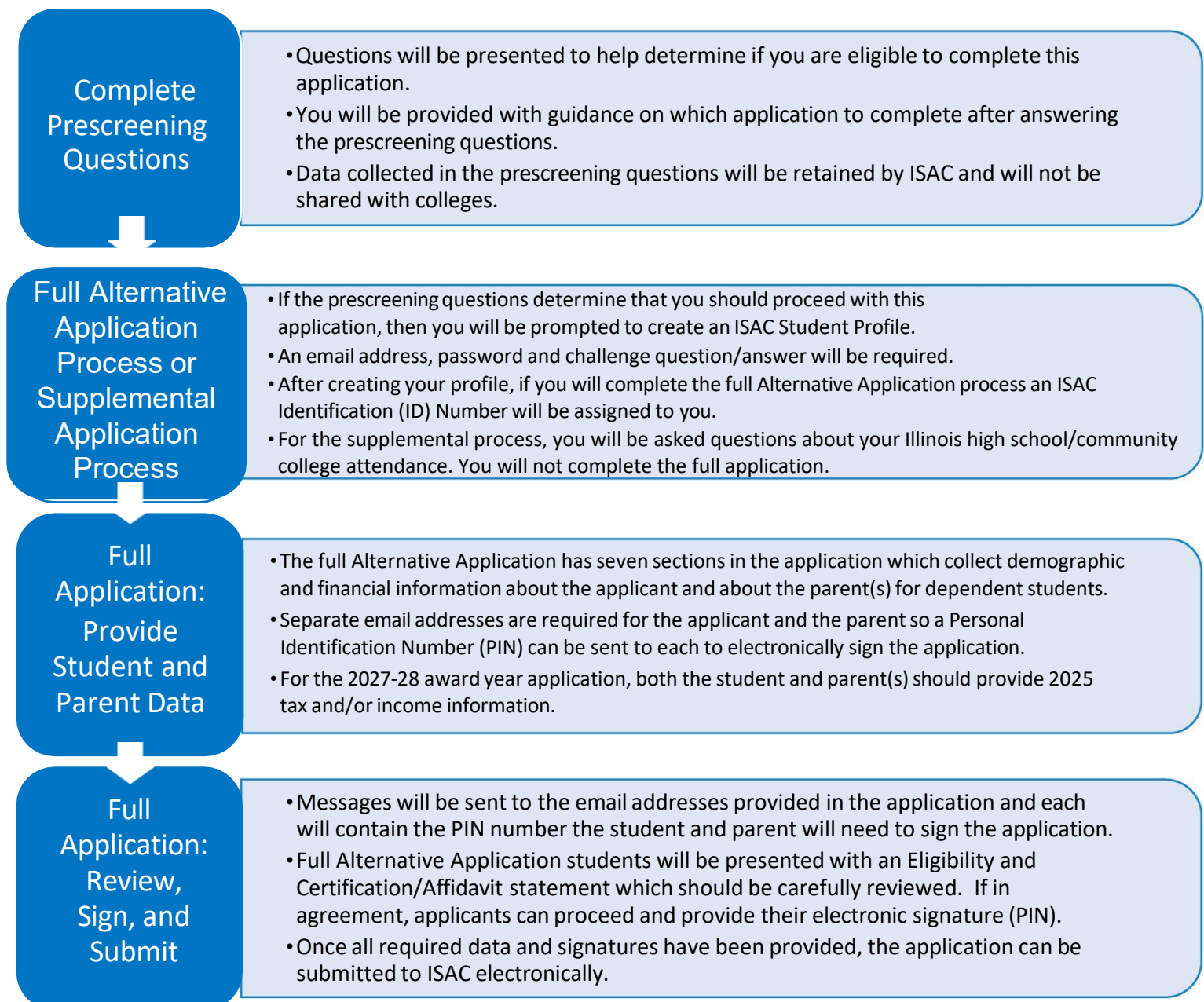
The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act, which went into effect on January 1, 2020, allows students who are ineligible for federal financial aid, including undocumented students, to apply for state financial aid if they meet certain eligibility criteria.

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid provides a pathway for students who meet the provisions of the RISE Act to apply for the Monetary Award Program.

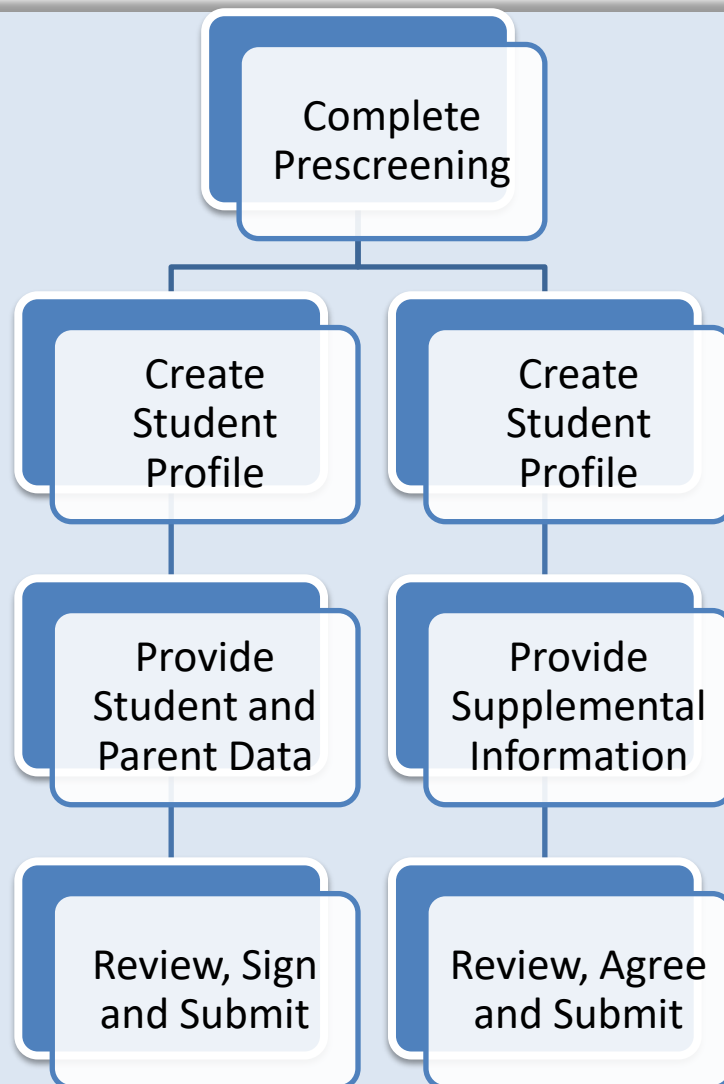
The Alternative Application collects much of the same data as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) but is administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.



The Alternative Application Process



FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS OR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PROCESS



The prescreening questions will assist you in determining if you are eligible to complete the full Alternative Application process or a Supplementary Application process.

TIPS AND NOTES ABOUT COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FOR THOSE COMPLETING THE FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

There are **seven sections** in the application:

- Section 1 – Demographic information about the student
- Section 2 – Student's income and asset information
- Section 3 – Questions to determine if a student is dependent or independent
- Section 4 – Demographic and financial information about the applicant's parents
- Section 5 – Household information about independent students
- Section 6 – School choices
- Section 7 – Review/edit data provided, certify eligibility and accuracy of information, and electronically sign the application.

Here is **what to expect for 2027-28**:

- The application is modeled after the 2027-28 FAFSA® and collects most of the same data, with a few important differences.
- Questions will not always follow the same order as they appear on the FAFSA®.
- Whenever possible, questions have been eliminated to simplify the application.
- Applicant data provided will be used to calculate a Student Aid Index (SAI) in the same manner as the FAFSA® form.
- Only one parent must electronically sign the Alternative Application for a dependent student, even when financial information is provided by more than one parent.
- Help text is provided in both English and Spanish.

Here is a **list of documentation needed** to complete the 2027-28 application:

- 2025 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- List of Illinois colleges the student would like to attend
- Parents of dependent students will also need most of the same information listed above.

Here is important information **about the PIN** you'll need to sign the application:

- ISAC will provide separate four-digit Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) to the student and parent that must be used to electronically sign the application.
- The PINs will be sent to the email addresses that are provided on the application.
- The student and parent must provide two separate email addresses.
- The application is not considered complete and cannot be submitted until electronic signatures have been provided.
- If you are a renewal applicant, both you and your parent may use the PIN assigned to you the previous year. However, if you have requested a new PIN at some point, you (and your parent) must use the most current PIN (based on the last activity) associated with your Student Profile. If you are unable to locate a previous your PIN or are unsure which one is most current, you and/or your parent may simply request a new PIN.

Here is some other helpful information:

- A **Save** function is available in the application that will allow you to save your data and return at a later time to finish completing the application.
- Once you have started an application, any time you return (e.g. to finish completing it or to make a correction), you should log in as a Returning Applicant. If you are a renewal applicant, you should also log in as a Returning Applicant. If you forget your log in information, you can contact ISAC at 1-800-899-4722 for assistance. Select Option 3.
- If, as a dependent applicant, you are unable to provide parental data due to an unusual circumstance (such as fleeing an abusive home) you should contact the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend for guidance and assistance.

Here is important information about ISAC's Privacy Policy:

- ISAC respects your right to privacy. ISAC is committed to ensuring that your personal, professional and financial information is secure. We have taken numerous steps to help safeguard the integrity of our communications and computing infrastructure, including but not limited to authentication, monitoring, auditing, and encryption. Security measures have been integrated into the design, implementation and day-to-day practices of the entire ISAC operating environment as part of our continuing commitment to risk management. Please read ISAC's [complete policy](#) at [isac.org](#) to understand how your personal information will be used.

TIPS AND NOTES ABOUT COMPLETING THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

There is only one section of the application to complete:

- High School /Community College Information

Here is what to expect for 2027-28:

- Since you have already completed a 2027-28 FAFSA® form, ISAC will not require any of your demographic information. The supplemental application provides ISAC with one additional key piece of information, your Illinois high school and/or community college attendance. Applicant data provided on your FAFSA® form will be used to calculate a Student Aid Index (SAI).

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PREScreening QUESTIONS



Illinois Student Assistance Commission

STUDENT

Welcome!

Students who are not eligible for federal student financial aid, including undocumented students, may be eligible to use the Alternative Application for Financial Aid ("Alternative Application") to apply for state financial aid programs.

This Prescreening Questionnaire will help determine if you are able to use the Alternative Application to be considered for state aid.

If you have any questions about the FAFSA® or Alternative Application before completing this questionnaire, please connect with your [local ISACorps member](#) for free one-on-one assistance.

CONTINUE



Illinois Student Assistance Commission

STUDENT

Which of the following statements is true for you?

Option 1A: You have completed or will complete the FAFSA® as a U.S. citizen or [eligible noncitizen](#), you are a resident of Illinois, and you meet the following criteria as a [dependent or independent student](#):

- Dependent students: The parent who contributes to your FAFSA® lives in Illinois as their true and permanent home, OR you are a dependent student who lives in Illinois with one parent but must list your other parent, who lives in another state, as your FAFSA® contributor.
- Independent students: You have lived in Illinois for 12 continuous months before the start of the academic year, and Illinois is your true and permanent home.

Option 1B: You received your high school education in Illinois and meet all the following criteria:

- You attended an Illinois public or private high school for at least 2 years before enrolling at an Illinois college or university; and
- You graduated from an Illinois public or private high school or received the equivalent of an Illinois high school diploma; and
- If you are an undocumented student, you agree to file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity if you are eligible to do so and you are not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.

Option 1C: You received your high school and community college education in Illinois and meet all the following criteria:

- You attended an Illinois public or private high school or an Illinois community college for at least 2 years AND attended either or a combination of both for a cumulative total of at least 3 years; and
- You graduated from an Illinois public or private high school or earned the equivalent of an Illinois high school diploma AND earned an associate degree or completed 60 transferrable credit hours at an Illinois community college; and
- If you are an undocumented student, you agree to file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity if you are eligible to do so and you are not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.

Option 1D: None of the above options describe me.

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

- ☐ Option 1A: I meet the criteria under Option 1A.
- ☐ Option 1B: I meet the criteria under Option 1B.
- ☐ Option 1C: I meet the criteria under Option 1C.
- ☐ Option 1D: None of the above situations describe me.

CONTINUE

- The prescreening questions must be answered to determine if you are eligible to complete an application.
- These questions will help you determine if you should complete the full Alternative Application process, the supplemental process or the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

PRESCREENING QUESTIONS

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

- ☒ Option 1A: I meet the criteria under Option 1A.
- ☐ Option 1B: I meet the criteria under Option 1B.
- ☐ Option 1C: I meet the criteria under Option 1C.
- ☐ Option 1D: None of the above situations describe me.



STUDENT

If you have completed the FAFSA® and are an Illinois resident, you will be considered for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant if you are eligible for an award. *There is nothing more that you need to do at this time.* The information gathered on your FAFSA® can also be used to determine financial need for other ISAC financial aid programs. Learn more about [ISAC Scholarship](#) and [ISAC Grant](#) programs.

If you have not completed the FAFSA® and are an Illinois resident, ISAC encourages you to complete the FAFSA® as soon as possible to be considered for state financial aid. You can [complete the FAFSA online](#). Please make sure you apply for the correct award year. For help with financial aid planning, connect with your [local ISACorps member](#) for free one-on-one assistance.

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

- ☐ Option 1A: I meet the criteria under Option 1A.
- ☒ Option 1B: I meet the criteria under Option 1B.
- ☐ Option 1C: I meet the criteria under Option 1C.
- ☐ Option 1D: None of the above situations describe me.



STUDENT

Which of the following statements is true for you?

Option 2A: I am a United States citizen, or I am an eligible noncitizen, which includes any one of the following:

1. U.S. National
2. Lawful or permanent resident with a Green Card
3. Have one of the following statuses from the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services:
 1. Refugee
 2. Asylum Granted
 3. Conditional Permanent Resident
 4. Cuban-Haitian Entrant
 5. Conditional Entrant (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
 6. Parolee (at least one year)
4. T-Visa Holder
5. Battered Immigrant Qualified
6. Citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau

Option 2B: I currently hold a temporary non-Immigrant visa or status which includes any one of the following:

1. A "Notice of Approval to Apply for Permanent Residence" (I-171 or I-464)
2. Employment authorization documents (Form I-766) only
3. A NATO visa
4. An A-1, A-2, or A-3 (foreign officials and attendants) visa holder;
5. A B-1 or B-2 visitor visa
6. A H or L series (temporary employment) visa
7. A U-Visa
8. Temporary Protected Status only
9. Approval for Family Unity Benefits only
10. An F-1, F-2, or M-1 nonimmigrant student visa, or a J-1 or J-2 nonimmigrant Exchange Visitor visa
11. A G series visa (pertaining to international organizations)

Option 2C: None of the above options describe me.

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

- ☐ Option 2A: I meet the criteria under Option 2A.
- ☐ Option 2B: I meet the criteria under Option 2B.
- ☐ Option 2C: None of the above situations describe me.

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

- ☐ Option 1A: I meet the criteria under Option 1A.
- ☐ Option 1B: I meet the criteria under Option 1B.
- ☒ Option 1C: I meet the criteria under Option 1C.
- ☐ Option 1D: None of the above situations describe me.



STUDENT

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2. Lawful or permanent resident with a Green Card
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 6. Parolee (at least one year)
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2. Employment authorization documents (Form I-766) only
3. A NATO visa
4. An A-1, A-2, or A-3 (foreign officials and attendants) visa holder;
5. A B-1 or B-2 visitor visa
6. A H or L series (temporary employment) visa
7. A U-Visa
8. Temporary Protected Status only
9. Approval for Family Unity Benefits only
10. An F-1, F-2, or M-1 nonimmigrant student visa, or a J-1 or J-2 nonimmigrant Exchange Visitor visa
11. A G series visa (pertaining to international organizations)

Option 2C: None of the above options describe me.

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- ☐ Option 2C: None of the above situations describe me.

PLEASE SELECT THE RESPONSE THAT IS TRUE FOR YOU:

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- ☐ Option 1B: I meet the criteria under Option 1B.
- ☐ Option 1C: I meet the criteria under Option 1C.
- ☒ Option 1D: None of the above situations describe me.



STUDENT

You are not eligible to be considered for Illinois state aid through ISAC. However, many agencies, associations, and organizations (for example, corporations, civic, religious, and philanthropic groups, and associations connected with your field of interest) provide dollars for college students. Some resources you may wish to review for scholarships and financial aid include [Appily](#), [Big Future](#), [Peterson's](#), [Scholarships](#), or [Unigo](#).

- If you are not eligible to complete the Alternative Application, you will be prompted to complete the FAFSA® or review other options.

STUDENT SECTIONS FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

Section 1
Student

Section 2
Student

Section 3
Student

Section 4
Parent

Section 5
Student

Section 6
Student

Section 7
Review & Signature

Section 1 - Student Information

Step 1 of 3: Demographics

Your ISAC ID Number ?

xxx-00-xxxx

First name ?

Middle name ?

Last name ?

Suffix ?

Date of birth ?

Phone number ?

Email address
ISAC requires your email address so we can send the Personal Identification Number (PIN) needed to sign your application. Your email address will also be shared with the schools that you select on your application. ?

Permanent mailing address
Number and street (include apt. number) ?

City (and country if not U.S.) ?

State ?

-- Select --

Postal (ZIP) Code ?

Once all questions have been answered, select the Next button at the bottom of the screen to navigate to the next page. Red messaging will indicate if you have not provided information for a required field, and you won't be able to proceed until all required information has been entered.

The email field is pre-populated with the email address provided when creating your Student Profile. Once the Next button is selected on this screen, an email with the student's Personal Identification Number (PIN) will be sent to the applicant.

Section 1 of the application collects demographic information about the student, such as name, date of birth, high school name, etc., and provides your ISAC ID number at the top of the page. Complete all fields as accurately as possible.

You are receiving this email because you created an account to complete the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid to apply for the Monetary Award Program (MAP), administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). The PIN that you will need to sign your application is provided below.

PIN 1234

Please keep your PIN confidential and do not share it with anyone.

NEXT

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID 2027-2028

SAVE

✓
Section 1
Student

Section 2
Student

Section 3
Student

Section 4
Parent

Section 5
Student

Section 6
Student

Section 7
Review & Signature

Section 2 - Student Information

Step 1 of 4: Tax Information

Answer these questions about yourself, the student. If you are married or remarried, and you did not file a joint tax return with your spouse, you will be asked to provide additional information about your spouse following the student questions.

Did or will the student file a 2025 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR? ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Section 2 of the application collects information about the student applicant's income and assets.

In order to complete this section, you will need your federal tax returns, W-2s, and/or other records of money earned, as well as information about your assets using documents such as bank statements, records of investments, and/or other records of untaxed income.

Help text for each question provides additional guidance.

DEPENDENCY STATUS AND PARENT SECTION FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID 2027-2028

SAVE

Section 1 Student Section 2 Student Section 3 Student Section 4 Parent Section 5 Student Section 6 Student Section 7 Review & Signature

Section 3 - Student Information

Step 1 of 1: Dependency Status

Application was successfully saved.

Student's Personal Circumstances – Answer the questions in this section to determine if you will need to provide parental information.

The student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training. ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

The student is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

The student has children or other people (excluding their spouse) who live with the student and receive more than half of their support from the student now and between July 1, 2027, and June 30, 2028. ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Data is automatically saved each time you navigate to a new section. You may also use the Save button at the top of the page. A message will appear in a green notification bar when data has been successfully saved.

Section 3 asks questions to determine if the student is a dependent or independent student for purposes of the application, which is an important factor in determining a student's financial need for state financial aid.

These are the same questions asked on the FAFSA®, and the definitions for terms used in these questions are also the same.

A student who does not meet at least one of the independent student criteria for the academic year is considered a dependent student and must also provide parental information on the application.

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID 2027-2028

SAVE

Section 1 Student Section 2 Student Section 3 Student Section 4 Parent Section 5 Student Section 6 Student Section 7 Review & Signature

Section 4 - Parent Information

Step 1 of 6: Demographics

Your ISAC ID Number ?

xxx-00-xxxx

Answer all the questions in Section Four even if you do not live with your legal parent(s). Legal parents are biological or adoptive, or as determined by the state. Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, widowed stepparents, aunts, uncles, and siblings are not considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted the student.

WHICH PARENT SHOULD INCLUDE INFORMATION?

If the student's parent was never married and does not live with the student's other legal parent, or if the parent is widowed and not remarried, that parent should only provide their own information in this Parent section, and the Parent Spouse or Partner section may be skipped.

If the parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions about the parent who provides the greater portion of the student's financial support, even if the student does not live with them. If this parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and the stepparent.

If the student's widowed parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and the stepparent.

First name ?

Middle Name ?

Last name ?

Section 4 is for parental data that is needed for dependent students. It collects demographic and financial information about the parent.

The definition of a legal parent is provided in this section, and additional guidance is now provided at the beginning of section 4 as well.

In this section you must also provide your parent's email address so that a PIN can be sent to your parent to electronically sign the application.

Your parent's email address cannot be the same as your student email address provided on the application.

SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR FULL APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID 2027-2028 SAVE

✓ Section 1 Student ✓ Section 2 Student ✓ Section 3 Student ✓ Section 4 Parent **Section 5 Student** **Section 6 Student** Section 7 Review & Signature

Section 6 - Student Information
Step 1 of 1: School Information

✓ Application was successfully saved.

Indicate which colleges you want to receive your application data.

1ST Federal School Code ?
-- Select --

2ND Federal School Code ?
-- Select --

3RD Federal School Code ?
-- Select --

Section 6 for the full Alternative Application process is where you will select the Illinois schools that you are most interested in attending and to which you would like your financial data sent so that they can determine your eligibility for the Monetary Award Program (MAP).

You may select up to 10 schools. You should include your top choices, even if you haven't applied for admission or been accepted yet.

The list of schools that you can select from is the complete list of schools in Illinois that are approved to participate in MAP.

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS 2027-2028

Illinois High School Pathway

Illinois College of Enrollment: ISAC needs information on the Illinois college you are planning to attend or most interested in attending in academic year 2027-28.

Step 10 of 14

PLEASE SELECT THE ILLINOIS COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

-- Select --

The school section for the Supplemental Application process is where you will select the Illinois school that you are most interested in attending and to which you would like your financial data sent so that they can determine your eligibility for the Monetary Award Program (MAP).

✓ Section 1 Student ✓ Section 2 Student ✓ Section 3 Student ✓ Section 4 Parent **Section 5 Student** **Section 6 Student** **Section 7 Review & Signature**

✓ Application was successfully saved.

REVIEW ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION/AFFIDAVIT

PARENT SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION

Your ISAC ID Number ?
xxx-00-xxxx

- ▶ Section 1 - Student
- ▶ Section 2 - Student
- ▶ Section 3 - Student
- ▶ Section 4 - Parent
- ▶ Section 5 - Student
- ▶ Section 6 - Student

Once all required sections and data fields have been completed on the application, you will have an opportunity to review the information before submitting it. You can navigate back to an appropriate section if a correction or update is needed.

Clicking on the print icon, will open a summary of your application in a PDF file for printing. Full Alternative Application students are encouraged to print a copy of the application summary and note their ISAC ID number for future reference.

SIGNING AND SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

Section 1 Student ✓

Section 2 Student ✓

Section 3 Student ✓

Section 4 Parent ✓

Section 5 Student ✓

Section 6 Student ✓

Section 7 Review & Signature ✓

REVIEW ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION/AFFIDAVIT

By signing this application electronically using my username and password and/or any other credential, I certify that I have read the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid requirements and that I meet the Eligibility Status criteria as stated, making me eligible to complete this Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

I also understand that I am applying to be considered for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant and that my eligibility will be determined based on additional factors, including, but not limited to, my financial condition, my Illinois residency and the availability of funds appropriated by the State.

If I am not a U.S. Citizen (U.S. National) or eligible noncitizen as defined in federal law, I hereby swear or affirm that I will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity I am eligible to do so.

I further certify that I am the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password and/or any other credential to anyone else.

I understand that any person who, by means of any false statement, willful misrepresentation, or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to which the person is not entitled, will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120)

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

Signature Status

Both you and a parent need to sign your Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

You may only sign for yourself. Your parent must sign using your ISAC ID Number and the parent PIN that was provided to your parent in an earlier email. If your parent cannot locate the email containing the PIN, click the button labeled, "Resend Link & PIN".

Required Student Signature: UNSIGNED RESEND LINK & PIN

PROVIDE SIGNATURE

Section 7 is where students and parents of dependent students review the certification statements regarding the information they've provided on the application and electronically sign the application if they agree, using the PIN provided to them by ISAC.

The student applicant must first review the Eligibility Requirements, and then the Certification and Affidavit statements.

If the student applicant is in agreement with the certification and affidavit statements, the student applicant should click on the Provide Signature button, which will activate the data field for the PIN. Once the student applicant has entered the PIN, the student applicant should click on the Save button.

If the applicant is not able to locate the email to which the PIN was sent, another PIN can be requested by clicking on the Resend Link & PIN button.

Please provide 4-digit PIN sent to student email

SAVE CANCEL

SUBMIT

PREVIOUS NEXT

The "Submit" button will remain grayed out until a parent signature is provided, if required. If a parent signature is not required, the applicant should click on the activated "Submit" button and that will complete the application process.

SIGNING AND SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FOR THE FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

Section 1 Student Section 2 Student Section 3 Student Section 4 Parent Section 5 Student Section 6 Student Section 7 Review & Signature

REVIEW ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION/AFFIDAVIT

PARENT SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION

By signing this application electronically using my username and password and/or any other credential, I certify that I have read the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid requirements and that I meet the Eligibility Status criteria as stated, making me eligible to complete this Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

I also understand that I am applying to be considered for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant and that my eligibility will be determined based on additional factors, including, but not limited to, my financial condition, my Illinois residency and the availability of funds appropriated by the State.

If I am not a U.S. Citizen (U.S. National) or eligible noncitizen as defined in federal law, I hereby swear or affirm that I will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity I am eligible to do so.

I further certify that I am the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password and/or any other credential to anyone else.

I understand that any person who, by means of any false statement, willful misrepresentation, or through other fraudulent device obtains or attempts to obtain or aids or abets any person in obtaining student aid from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to which the person is not entitled, will be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and the award obtained by such means will be recoverable in a civil action. (110 ILCS 947/120)

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information and attestations provided in this application are true, accurate and complete.

Signature Status

Both you and a parent need to sign your Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

You may only sign for yourself. Your parent must sign using your ISAC ID Number and the parent PIN that was provided to your parent in an earlier email. If your parent cannot locate the email containing the PIN, click the button labeled, "Resend Link & PIN".

Required Student Signature: UNSIGNED RESEND LINK & PIN PROVIDE SIGNATURE

The parent (for dependent applicants) must also sign the application using the PIN sent to the email address provided for the parent in Section 4 of the application.

The parent may sign at the same time as the student, or the parent may log in at a later time. The parent will need the student's ISAC ID Number, and the parent PIN to access the application.

The parent will be provided with a certification statement to review, and if in agreement, must then click the Provide Signature button, which will activate the data field for the PIN. Once the parent has entered the PIN, the parent should click on the Save button.

Once all required signatures have been provided, the Submit button will be activated and the student can submit the application to complete the process.

If the application is successfully submitted, the student will receive a confirmation page, as well as an email from ISAC.

It is recommended that the student print the confirmation page for their records.

The student's ISAC ID Number is provided on the confirmation for future reference.

This ISAC ID Number will stay the same for the student for each award year.

Application Submission Confirmation

 Congratulations,

ISAC ID Number: xxx-00-xxxx

Important

- Be sure to retain and secure your ISAC ID Number. The number - which does not change - serves as your individual student identifier at ISAC and at your college.
- Keep your email address current in your Student Profile. You will need your Profile email address to access, update, or correct your Alternative Application in the future.

What Happens Next

- Your Alternative Application information will be made available to the school(s) you listed on your application. The information will be used to determine the financial aid, including MAP, you will be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if more information is needed and/or to inform you about your financial aid award package.
- If you have questions about your financial aid award package, contact your school(s).
- If you need to make corrections to the information you submitted, log in to your application through the "Returning Applicants Login" button, using your user name and password. Correct the necessary item(s) and then sign and submit the application by entering the provided PIN.

An abbreviated version of your confirmation page has been sent to you at the email address:



PRINT THIS PAGE

Congratulations 

This email confirms that your 2027-2028 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid - used to apply for the Monetary Award Program (MAP), administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) - was successfully submitted.

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PROCESS

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS 2027-2028

Certification and Attestation

In submitting this application, I attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all information reported in this application is accurate and complete, including my educational ties to Illinois and my belief in my ineligibility for federal financial aid. I acknowledge that ISAC will review my FAFSA® data. Further, the information provided on this application will be reviewed for state financial aid eligibility by ISAC and any Illinois institutions that receive this data.

Step 14 of 14

AGREE

☒ I Agree

BACK

CONTINUE

The student applicant must first review the Eligibility Requirements, and then the Certification and Attestation statements.

If the student is in agreement with the certification and attestation statements, the applicant should click, “I Agree” and choose the “Continue” button.

Once the student selects the “Continue” button, they will get the confirmation page.

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS 2027-2028

Application Submission Confirmation



Congratulations

Important

- If you are issued an ISAC ID Number (not all applicants receive one), be sure to retain and secure it. The number – which does not change – serves as your individual student identifier at ISAC and at your college. If you do not receive an ISAC ID Number, your FAFSA information is used to identify you at ISAC and at your college.
- Keep your email address current in your Student Profile. You will need your Profile email address to access, update, or correct your Alternative Application in the future. Make sure to use a permanent email address like a Gmail or Yahoo account not your school account.

What Happens Next

- Your Alternative Application information will be made available to the school(s) you listed on your application. The information will be used to determine the financial aid, including MAP, you will be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if more information is needed and/or to inform you about your financial aid award package.
- If you have questions about your financial aid award package, contact your school(s).
- If you were issued an ISAC ID Number and you need to make corrections to the information you submitted, log into your application through the “Returning Applicants Login” button, using your username and password. Correct the necessary item(s) and then sign and submit the application by entering the provided PIN. If you did not receive an ISAC ID Number, you will not be able to make corrections to your application. Please contact a Student Engagement Representative at 800.899.ISAC (4722) or email us at [\[redacted\]](#).
- An abbreviated version of your confirmation page has been sent to you at the email address:

PRINT THIS PAGE

MAKING CORRECTIONS TO THE APPLICATION FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

What kinds of changes can I make to my Alternative Application once it's been processed?

- Generally, you should not update information that was correct as of the date you signed and submitted your initial Alternative Application because it is considered to be a “snapshot” of the family’s financial situation as of that date. For example, if you spent some of your savings after submitting the application, you should not update your information to show a change in that amount.
- Correcting or updating information on your Alternative Application can have an impact on your eligibility and your Student Aid Index (SAI). If there will be a significant change in your or your parent’s income since you submitted your initial application or if your family has other circumstances that cannot be reported on the application, it is recommended that you speak to the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend before making multiple and/or significant changes to your application. Following are general guidelines for making corrections and updates.

Corrections: If You Made a Mistake

- If you made a mistake in what you reported on the Alternative Application, you will need to make a correction.

Updates: If Your Situation Has Changed

- You may update your mailing address, email address, and other contact information if it has changed.

There are certain items that you must update:

- You must update anything that changes your dependency status, except a change in your marital status. If your marital status changes, contact your financial aid office to determine if you should update the application.
- If (and only if) you are selected for verification by your school, you must update your application if there is a change in the number of family members in your parents’ household or in your household.

Changes to School Choices: If You Want to Add or Delete a School

- If you want to make your Alternative Application information available to an additional school after filing the application, you may add another school choice. However, no more than 10 schools may be listed on your application at one time. If you have already made 10 school choices, you will need to replace one of the choices with the new school. The school removed from the list will not have access to any new information you provide after you’ve removed that school.

How do I make changes to my Alternative Application?

- Navigate to the Alternative Application home page and log in as a Returning Applicant.
 - Use the username (email address) and password you provided when you created your Student Profile.
- Correct/update your information.
- Sign and submit your new information by providing your PIN on the signature page. If parent data was changed, your parent will also need to sign the application.
 - Use the same PIN provided to you for your initial application, or request a new PIN if you are unable to locate your original PIN.

MAKING CORRECTIONS TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PROCESS

- You will not be able to make corrections to your application. Please contact a Student Engagement Representative at 800.899.4722 or email us at isac.studentservices@illinois.gov.

MAKING CORRECTIONS TO THE APPLICATION FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

To correct your application, you will need to login as a **Returning Applicant** using the username (email address) and password you provided when you created your Student Profile.

ISAC
Illinois Student Assistance Commission

ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID

Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (or Alternative Application) allows certain students who are not eligible for federal student aid, including undocumented students, to apply for state financial aid. The Alternative Application provides a way for students to apply for the Illinois MAP Grant, which normally requires the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

The **Prescreening Questionnaire** will help determine if you are able to use the Alternative Application to be considered for state aid. If you have any questions about the FAFSA® or Alternative Application before completing this questionnaire, please connect with your **local ISACorps member** for free one-on-one assistance.

[See our User Guide & Resources for this program >>](#)

Student Profile

LOGIN

Email address Password

LOGIN

[Forgot Password?](#) [Forgot Username?](#)

1 Select Academic Year * 2027-2028

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 email address that was used for your previous application to file a new application, unless you changed your email address on your Student Profile.

* An academic year must be selected to enable the links and buttons below.

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First-Time Applicants

- Click on the "Start" button to start a new 2027-2028 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
- Do not submit multiple applications for the same academic year

START

Returning Applicants

Complete or correct a 2027-2028 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

[Forgot Username?](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

LOGIN

Submit Parent Signature

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

PARENT SIGNATURE

Signature Status

Both you and a parent need to sign your Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

You may only sign for yourself. Your parent must sign using your ISAC ID Number and the parent PIN that was provided to your parent in an earlier e-mail. If your parent cannot locate the e-mail containing the PIN, click the button labeled, "Resend Link & PIN".

Required Student Signature: UNSIGNED

RESEND LINK & PIN

PROVIDE SIGNATURE

All corrections, including changing or adding school choices, will require you to re-sign the application to confirm your changes and submit them for corrections.

If changes are made to parent data, then the parent will need to re-sign the application as well, following the same process used when they initially signed the application.

Both the student and the parent should use the same PIN provided to them in the initial application process. However, if you are unable to locate your PIN, you may request a new one on the signature page of the application and it will be sent to the email address provided on your application.

Each time you make a correction or update to your application, it will generate a new student record at the school(s) listed on your application and could possibly result in a new SAI and/or impact your eligibility for MAP.

The colleges you have listed on your application will have access to the new information, and you will receive an email from ISAC confirming that your corrections have been processed.

LOGIN RESET OPTIONS

Select Academic Year * 2027-2028

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 email address that was used for your previous application to file a new application, unless you changed your email address on your Student Profile.

* An academic year must be selected to enable the links and buttons below.

First-Time Applicants

- Click on the "Start" button to start a new 2027-2028 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid
- Do not submit multiple applications for the same academic year

START

Returning Applicants

Complete or correct a 2027-2028 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid

[Forgot Username?](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

LOGIN

Submit Parent Signature

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

PARENT SIGNATURE

- Renewal applicants will have to provide their username and password.
- If you cannot access the application there will be an option to reset password. You will need to have access to the email you used when creating your student profile.
- You will also need to know the answer to the challenge question you created when signing up.
- Your username is your email.

Student Profile

Forgot Password?

Enter your User ID (your email address)

SUBMIT

[Back](#)

Trouble logging in? If you can't remember your user name or password, no problem. You can log in with other information

LOGIN ANOTHER WAY

Student Profile

Answer Challenge Question

Please answer the question below

What is your dogs name?

SUBMIT

[Reset Question and Answer](#)

Reset Password

New Password

Re-enter New Password

SUBMIT

[Cancel](#)

FOR FULL ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

Student Profile

Forgot Password?

Enter your User ID (your email address)

SUBMIT

[Back](#)

Trouble logging in? If you can't remember your user name or password, no problem. You can log in with other information

LOGIN ANOTHER WAY

Forgot UserID Email? Please use below alternative access to find your profile

9-Digit ISAC ID

Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY

SUBMIT

- In the case that you can't remember your username or password; you can log in with other information.
- For this you will need your 9-digit ISAC ID and your Date of Birth.