

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES  
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION  
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2750  
ILLINOIS GRADUATE AND RETAIN OUR WORKFORCE (iGROW) TECH  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section

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- 2750.15 Definitions
- 2750.20 Applicant Eligibility
- 2750.30 Program Procedures
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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 65.120 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/65.120].

SOURCE: Adopted at 48 Ill. Reg. 4456, effective March 8, 2024; amended at 48 Ill. Reg. \_\_\_\_\_, effective \_\_\_\_\_.

**Section 2750.20 Applicant Eligibility**

A qualified applicant shall:

- a) be a resident of Illinois;
- b) *have graduated from high school or have received a State of Illinois High School Diploma and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale* ~~while in high school~~;
- c) *pursue or intend to pursue a qualifying degree*;
- d) *be enrolled at an ISAC-approved institution of higher learning, on at least a half-time basis, in a course of study necessary to secure a qualifying degree; and* [110 ILCS 947.65/120]
- e) maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by the institution.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. \_\_\_\_\_, effective \_\_\_\_\_)

**Section 2750.30 Program Procedures**

- 44 a) An application for an iGROW award must be submitted annually, and an  
 45 applicant must also complete the FAFSA®. ~~In~~ order to receive priority  
 46 consideration for an award, an ISAC application and the federal FAFSA must be  
 47 completed and received by a date established each year by the Commission and  
 48 posted on the ISAC website, preceding the academic year for which the  
 49 scholarship is being requested. No applications will be considered for processing  
 50 if received after the published date unless funds remain available for  
 51 disbursement.
- 52
- 53 1) Applications are available on ISAC's website ([isac.org](http://isac.org)).
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- 55 2) If the application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant, who will  
 56 have an opportunity to furnish the missing information. The application  
 57 will only be considered for processing as of the date the application is  
 58 complete and received at ISAC's Deerfield office.
- 59
- 60 b) Scholarship assistance is limited to the full-time enrollment equivalent of 8  
 61 semesters or 12 quarters of payment for undergraduate study.
- 62
- 63 c) ISAC will annually determine a maximum award amount. Award funds may not  
 64 exceed ~~shall be applicable only up to and including to~~ *the full costs of tuition and*  
 65 *fees, and room and board in the amount of the standard housing and food*  
 66 *allowance used for all undergraduate students, at a public institution.* [110 ILCS  
 67 947.65/120] For recipients at private institutions, the award may not exceed the  
 68 maximum amount payable to a student enrolled in the most expensive comparable  
 69 program of study at a public institution.
- 70
- 71 d) Awards are payable only for two semesters or three quarters in an academic year.
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- 73 e) ISAC shall select the recipients from among those who have submitted complete  
 74 applications and have supplied required information, including qualified and  
 75 timely new and renewal applicants.
- 76
- 77 f) Awarding priority shall be given to renewal applicants who continue to meet the  
 78 eligibility requirements; then those applicants who demonstrate academic  
 79 excellence, demonstrate financial need or minority applicants. Once renewal  
 80 applicants have been awarded, the awarding methodology shall consider academic  
 81 excellence, financial need and minority status as evenly-weighted separate values  
 82 that will be summed to determine an overall priority score.
- 83
- 84 g) The total number of awards in a given fiscal year is contingent upon available  
 85 funding. If funding is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants, awarding will be

- 86 based on the date the completed application is received in ISAC's Deerfield  
 87 office.  
 88
- 89 h) Each qualified applicant who is selected to receive a scholarship shall be notified  
 90 by ISAC. Applicants not receiving the scholarship will be notified as well.  
 91
- 92 i) *The total amount of funds awarded to a qualified recipient in a given academic*  
 93 *year, when added to other financial aid available to the qualified recipient for*  
 94 *that year, shall not exceed the cost of attendance. If the amount of financial aid to*  
 95 *be awarded to a qualified student exceeds the institution's cost of attendance, the*  
 96 *iGROW Tech Scholarship shall be reduced by the amount by which the cost of*  
 97 *attendance is exceeded. [110 ILCS 947.65/120]*  
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- 99 j) If the recipient receives other assistance targeted specifically for tuition, fees, and  
 100 room and board expenses, the combined assistance shall not exceed the total  
 101 tuition, fees, and room and board expenses incurred by the student, and if it does,  
 102 the institution shall reduce one of the awards accordingly.  
 103
- 104 k) If the recipient is eligible for assistance under MAP, the recipient may not be  
 105 eligible for a full iGROW award because MAP must be factored into the financial  
 106 aid package prior to receiving iGROW assistance. The institution, however, may  
 107 request an iGROW award to finance tuition and fees expenses not paid by MAP.  
 108
- 109 lj) ISAC pays scholarship funds directly to the institution of record in the name of  
 110 the recipient.  
 111
- 112 mk) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance under this Part, the qualified applicant  
 113 must sign an Agreement/Promissory Note that is submitted to ISAC. The  
 114 Agreement/Promissory Note shall include the following stipulations:  
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- 116 1) *for each year of scholarship assistance received, the recipient pledges to*  
 117 *work in Illinois in a qualifying job for a period of not less than one year,*  
 118 *but in no event for a period of less than two years. [110 ILCS 947.65/120]*  
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  - 120 2) the recipient shall begin working within one year after completion of the  
 121 program for which the recipient received assistance under this Part, and  
 122 shall work on a continuous basis for the required period of time.  
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  - 124 3) if the work requirement is not fulfilled, the scholarship converts to a loan  
 125 and the recipient must repay the entire amount of the scholarship prorated  
 126 according to the fraction of the employment obligation not completed,  
 127 plus interest at a rate equal to 5%, and if applicable, reasonable collection  
 128 fees.

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4) The recipient agrees to provide ISAC with evidence of compliance with program requirements (e.g., responses to annual follow-up questionnaires, etc.)

n†) *A recipient of a scholarship awarded under this Part will not be in violation of the agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (m‡) during the periods in which the recipient:*

- 1) *enrolls at a qualified institution on a full-time basis as a graduate student in a course of study related to the technology degree for which the recipient qualified for the scholarship;*
- 2) *serves, for not more than three years, as a member of the United States Armed Forces;*
- 3) *is temporarily totally disabled, for not more than three years, as established by a sworn affidavit of a licensed physician;*
- 4) *is actively seeking but unable to find full-time employment with a State employer that satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (m‡)(1) and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or*
- 5) *becomes totally and permanently disabled as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician. [110 ILCS 947.65/120]*

o‡) *Scholarship recipients who withdraw from a program of computer science or other related major area of study (see Qualifying Degree), but remain enrolled in a qualified institution to continue their postsecondary studies in another academic discipline, shall not be required to commence repayment so long as they remain enrolled on a full-time basis or if special circumstances that warrant extension of repayment can be documented, including, but not limited to, service in the United States Armed Forces and temporary total disability. [110 ILCS 947.65/120]*

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. \_\_\_\_\_, effective \_\_\_\_\_)