

## **RISE Act & the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid**

The Retention of Illinois Students & Equity (RISE) Act allows eligible undocumented students and transgender students who are disqualified from federal financial aid to apply for all forms of state financial aid. The **Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid** provides a pathway for these qualified students to apply for Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants. Please note, the RISE Act does not exempt applicants from meeting existing MAP eligibility criteria.

### Criteria:

- Noncitizen student who has not obtained lawful permanent residence:
  - resided with his or her parent or guardian while attending an Illinois public or private high school;
  - graduated from a public or private high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in Illinois;
  - attended school in Illinois for at least 3 years as of the date the individual graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma;
  - provides an affidavit stating that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so;
  - and has not established a residence outside of Illinois.
- Transgender student who is disqualified for failure to register for selective service:
  - Must meet MAP eligibility requirements

The Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid is now open for the 2020-2021 school year. Similar to the FAFSA, the applicant will be required to provide 2018 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned. Dependent students will also need to provide information about their parents.

Please reach out to the Financial Aid office at 815-802-8550 for more information or apply online at [ISAC.org](http://ISAC.org).

NOTE: This application pathway is an alternative application for students who are disqualified to apply for federal aid through the FAFSA application pathway. It is not an additional grant opportunity.