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# Illinois State Financial Aid Newsletter

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Spring 2009

## Summer 2009 Application Process

To receive consideration for summer financial aid, you must complete the 2009 Summer Financial Aid Application. They are available at the Financial Aid Office, or one can be [printed from the Forms section of our web site](#). After eligibility is determined, you will receive a paper Award Notice.

Students who are studying abroad for the summer should submit their summer financial aid applications as soon as possible.

For students who have borrowed the maximum for their class level during the fall and spring semesters, options are the Parent Loan (PLUS) and alternative loans to help meet the cost of attendance for summer. [Information](#) on both of these loans is located on the Financial Aid Office web site, [www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid](http://www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid).

## It's time to complete your 2009-2010 FAFSA

If you have not already done so, you should complete a 2009-2010 FAFSA on the web at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) as soon as possible. If you do not already have a PIN, you can apply for one by going to the web site [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).

Once you have filed your FAFSA, you will receive a confirmation from the federal processor, which should be reviewed for accuracy. You can then make any necessary corrections based on your/your parents' tax return information through [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). If your application is selected for quality assurance verification, please return any requested documents to the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible. Awarding of 2009-2010 financial aid for continuing students will begin in late April.

### **For Help in Applying:**

For assistance with completing your FAFSA, you can stop by the Financial Aid Office, Room 231 Fell Hall, to see a financial aid counselor. You or your parents can also call us at 309 438-2231 for assistance. You may also e-mail your questions to your counselor at [financialaid@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:financialaid@IllinoisState.edu).

## Award notices for 2009-2010

The mailing of award notices to incoming freshmen began in late March. Continuing student's awards will begin posting on [iCampus](#) mid-April. Make sure you check [iCampus](#) for information about your financial aid. If your awards have not been processed, [iCampus](#) will have information regarding any documents that still may be needed.

## Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit of financial aid refunds is available by registering through [iCampus](#). Registering for Direct Deposit will result in any future refunds going directly into your designated bank account. Funds are

received faster and without having to make sure that your address is current. Please visit the [Student Accounts Web site](#) for more information.

## **Changes to Financial Aid section of *iCampus***

The financial aid section of *iCampus* has undergone changes that will help students know where they are in the process of applying for and receiving financial aid. Updates include:

- a new application process checklist (FAFSA filers without private Scholarships)
- a page that lists documents that have been submitted or still need to be submitted and additional information about your application status
- an easier to read award notice page
- a new loan information page
- a new page with additional information regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress
- a one-time agreement to receive information electronically through *iCampus*

Additionally, students are now required to use their Illinois State PIN numbers to access their financial aid information in *iCampus*.

### **Other information in *iCampus***

You can access pertinent information on the *iCampus* portal from a link on the Financial Aid Office's web site, [www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid](http://www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid) .

Information found on *iCampus* includes grades, class schedules, books required for classes, financial aid information including academic year Award Notices, Redbird Card balance, e-mail, calendars, "to do" list, and an e-mail ULID search for the Illinois State community.

The portal will continue to expand based on the needs of various offices and departments to provide information to students in an electronic format. To access the Portal, you will need an Illinois State ULID, password, and PIN. Information for faculty and staff is also being included in the portal.

### **Other Useful Web Sites**

**Illinois State University Financial Aid Office** ([www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid](http://www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid)) This site provides important application information, scholarship searches and links to other important web sites, including:

**Student Aid on the Web** ([www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)) This site, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, provides:

- Loan entrance counseling
- Student access to loan and grant history through NSLDS (National Student Loan Data System)
- Information on what can happen when a student does not enroll at least half-time
- What to expect as a student while attending college
- Options for repayment of student loans

**Direct Loan Servicing Online** ([www.dlsonline.com/](http://www.dlsonline.com/)) Through this Department of Education web site, students can access information about their student loans and includes information on making online payments, viewing account balances and payment history, changing billing options, enrolling in electronic services, and loan consolidation. You will need your federal PIN number to access this information. If you do not have a PIN number or have forgotten it, you need to go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) to apply.

**CollegeZone** ([www.collegezone.com](http://www.collegezone.com)) Sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, this site targets a wide range of groups – students, parents, high school counselors, college financial aid administrators, and lenders. Some of the valuable tools offered on the site include:

- Calculators that allow students to estimate their loan payments after college
- Detailed information on state-sponsored scholarship programs
- Tips on choosing and funding an advanced degree
- Scholarship searches

## **Scholarships - Scholarship Resource Office**

Visit our office for assistance in your scholarship searches and to answer any questions you may have about current scholarships. If you are the recipient of a scholarship from a private donor (agency external to the University), please bring your scholarship checks to the Scholarship Resource Office to be processed. If you have any questions, we are located in Fell Hall, room 251 and are open Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm. You can contact us at 309-438-2740 or at [scholarships@ilstu.edu](mailto:scholarships@ilstu.edu). Searching for scholarships? Visit the "[Scholarship](#)" section of the FAO web site, for lists of some local, state, institutional, and national scholarships.

## **Student Employment**

Part-time jobs are posted online at [www.IllinoisState.edu/jobs](http://www.IllinoisState.edu/jobs). This site includes listings for both on and off-campus positions. Also, mark your calendars to attend the Part-time Job Fair, which will be held early in the fall 2009 semester. More details about the Job Fair will be available on our web site this summer and in our summer newsletter.

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<p><b>Financial Aid Office</b> <b>Campus Box 2320</b> <b>Normal, IL 61790-2320</b> <b>Phone: 309 438-2231</b> <b>FAX: 309 438-3755</b> <a href="http://www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid">www.IllinoisState.edu/financialaid</a></p>
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