Financing Your Graduate Education

How to pay for Graduate School is a major question for most graduate students. At Illinois College, we offer financial help in the form of loans, assistantships and tuition payment plans.

**Loans** Most graduate students looking for help paying for their continuing education will qualify for a *Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan*. With this type of loan, interest will begin accruing on the loan while you are in school but you may defer payment until graduation or until you drop below half-time enrollment. You may also defer payment on your undergraduate loans while you are enrolled in the graduate program!

To be considered for financial assistance, you must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You may apply online at www.fafsa.gov.

After your FAFSA results have been received by Illinois College, our Financial Aid office will work with you to create a personalized loan package that will best meet your individual need for each term of the academic year.

**Tuition Vouchers** Graduate students who act as cooperating teacher for an Illinois College teacher candidate’s Professional Semester may earn vouchers that can be applied toward tuition. Availability of these vouchers varies by semester based on the needs of the IC Teacher Preparation Program. Please contact Jenny Chandler in the Department of Education for more details.

**Tuition Payment Options** We offer several options to make paying your bill as easy as possible. You may *Pay your bill in full* (less any loans, grants or other financial aid) by credit card, debit card or e-check via our online payment portal. Payments may also be made via credit card by calling 217-245-3018, by mail or in person in our Accounting Services office.

If you would prefer to pay your bill over time, we offer several *Payment Plans* through Tuition Management Systems. Please contact Doris Gregory in our Accounting Services Department for more details.

Finally, please speak with your school administrators - you may be eligible for *Tuition Reimbursement* or grants through your school district.

**For Further Information Please Contact:**
Kate Taylor, Director of Financial Aid  
217-245-3035  
kataylor@ic.edu

Doris Gregory, Director of Student Accounts  
217-245-3018  
djgregor@ic.edu

Jenny Chandler, Administrative Assistant for the Master of Arts in Education Program  
217-245-3392  
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