

## 2025-2026 AIM HIGH Scholarship

The AIM HIGH Scholarship, funded by the State of Illinois, provides merit-based awards to undergraduate students. This grant program is designed to encourage Illinois students to attend an in-state university, improve college affordability, and reduce student loan debt. For consideration, the FAFSA or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid should be completed by our preferred filing date. There is not a separate application for the Aim High Scholarship.

For Fall 2025, Illinois State University will provide up to \$2,000 per year to first time in college students who meet all the following criteria:

- Is a resident of the state of Illinois and attended an Illinois high school.
- Is a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen or meet the “undocumented student” criteria of the RISE Act.
- Is a full-time undergraduate student enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program.
- Is enrolled for the first time at Illinois State University.
- Cannot be incarcerated.
- Cannot be in default on any student loan nor owe a refund or repayment on any State or federal grant or scholarship.
- File a 2025-26 FAFSA or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid and demonstrate need with household income no greater than eight times the poverty guidelines as outlined in the chart below. 2023 income is used to determine 2025-2026 eligibility.
- Priority is given to those who file the FAFSA or Alternative Application by February 1, 2025.
- Priority is given to students with a grade point average of 4.0 or higher.

### Income Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family/Household	Maximum Income
1	\$116,640
2	\$157,760
3	\$198,880
4	\$240,000
5	\$281,120
6	\$322,240
7	\$363,360
8	\$404,480
Every Additional	Add \$41,120

The AIM HIGH Scholarship is available for up to four years (eight consecutive fall and spring semesters) and requires full-time enrollment, a 2.75 cumulative grade point average, and Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for renewal.

AIM HIGH Scholarship renewal awards are contingent on funding availability. Each school must provide new financial aid funding to match a portion of the AIM HIGH Grant funding provided by the State of Illinois. Illinois State will match the state funding with the Redbird Scholarship and Jesse W. Fell Scholarship. Not every AIM HIGH Scholarship recipient will receive matching institutional funds.