



# Don't Get Left Out in the Cold this Winter.

It's that time of year again, with lots of snow, below-freezing temperatures and little daylight, you know that winter has settled in. This is the time where an evaluation of resources is most important. Are you ready?

Is your financial aid in place for the current 19/20 school year? Have you submitted your FAFSA for the 20/21 school year? Is it time to apply for scholarships? Winter is the time to clean up any loose ends for the current year and set yourself up for a successful 20/21 school year.

If you have not completed your **FAFSA (Free Application For Student Aid)**. It's not too late! To maximize your eligibility for gift aid (free money), we recommend completing the FAFSA as early as possible.

Those with the most financial need can receive up to \$6,195 in **Federal PELL Grant**. Finishing your FAFSA early may qualify Illinois resident for the **Illinois Map Grant** for as much as \$5,340.

**Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)** offers up to \$750 to early FAFSA applicants with exceptional financial need.

**Teacher Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant** provides grants up to \$4,000 a year to students who are planning to become a teacher in a high-need field in low-income areas.

**Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship** and **Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW)** are also available to qualifying education students. Learn more about these at [isac.org](http://isac.org).

**Federal Veterans Grants** are available for qualifying students such as the **VA GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, and the Post 9-11 GI Bill**

**Illinois Veterans Grant (IVG)** and **Illinois National Guard Grant (ING)** offers aid to Illinois Veterans members of Illinois National Guard, and Reserves. Learn more at [isac.gov](http://isac.gov).

**Institutional Scholarships** are the scholarships that are awarded by the University. Students are encouraged to apply for as many of these as they think they may qualify. Priority is given to early applicants. Apply at <https://neiu.academicworks.com>.

**Outside Scholarships** are available everywhere. From student or parents place of employment, the businesses you frequent, or place of worship, there is an abundance of scholarship opportunities to be tapped.

Now that you have warmed up to the free money that is available, you may need to consider some self-help aid. **Work-Study** provides part-time jobs for students with financial need. **Federal Direct Loan** can help fill the gap that grants and scholarships do not cover.

Don't get cold feet when it comes time to take care of your finances. Remember you are not alone. Students are welcome to huddle up with a financial aid advisor to review their financial aid options and concerns.

We can help you skate through the financial aid process so that you can concentrate on your educational endeavors without the concerns of how you are going to pay for it

## SPRING BOOK VOUCHER December 16th-January 21st

### TO QUALIFY:

Financial aid package must be reflected under 2019-2020 Financial Aid Awards

Financial Aid Awards must exceed University balance. (Must have credit balance)

### TO ORDER ONLINE:

Visit [eFollett.com](http://eFollett.com) website [www.bkstr.com/northeasternillinoisstore/home](http://www.bkstr.com/northeasternillinoisstore/home) or download the mobile application on your phone

Present your NEIU ID to the bookstore cashier and request to pick up your order.

### TO SHOP IN PERSON:

Visit eFollett Bookstore on campus (adjacent to the Student Union) and select your books.

Show your NEIU ID to the cashier at time of checkout.



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Last June, the Retention of Illinois Students & Equity Act (RISE) was signed into law. The Act provides that “a student who is an Illinois resident and who is not otherwise eligible for federal financial aid, including, but not limited to, a transgender student who is disqualified for failure to register for selective service or a noncitizen student who has not obtained lawful permanent residence, shall be eligible for state financial aid and benefits...”.

These students will be eligible to “apply or receive consideration for any student aid or benefit funded or administered by the State, any State agency, or any public institution of higher learning, including, but not limited to, scholarships, grants, awards, stipends, room and board assistance, tuition waivers, or other financial or in-kind assistance...”

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

##### FINAID OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Friday  
8:30am-4:30pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8:30am-6:00pm

##### FINAID EMAIL

[Financial-Aid@neiu.edu](mailto:Financial-Aid@neiu.edu)

##### TELEPHONE CENTER/FAX

(773) 442-5016/ (773) 442-5040

##### SCHOLARSHIPS

Telephone: (773) 442-4606  
Email: [Scholarships@neiu.edu](mailto:Scholarships@neiu.edu)  
Online application:  
<https://neiu.academicworks.com/>

##### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE TELEPHONE/EMAIL

(773) 442-4696  
[student-employment@neiu.edu](mailto:student-employment@neiu.edu)

##### WEBSITE ACCESS:

<http://www.neiu.edu/financial-aid/>

##### FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/NEIUFinancialAid>

The 75-hour cap on MAP Grant paid credit hours for freshman and sophomores will be lifted as of January 1, 2020 due to the RISE Act, but the overall maximum of 135 MAP paid credit hours will remain in effect.

The Rise Act creates a pathway for ISAC gift assistance programs beginning in the 2020-21 academic year, including Illinois MAP Grant, the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MIT) Scholarship Program, the Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program as well as other programs offered by the state.

For RISE Act eligible students, ISAC is creating an on-line application for the MAP Grant. Like the FAFSA, the data from the application will be used to calculate an expected family contribution to determine students' MAP eligibility. The application will be available January 1, 2020 for the 2021 Academic year.

Application for other ISAC programs will be updated as well to accommodate the RISE Act provisions.

If you think you may be eligible, we recommend you visit The Illinois Student Assistance Commission at [isac.gov](http://isac.gov) for the latest updates and applications. Keep in mind that receiving assistance for ISAC programs are time sensitive, so be sure to apply early, and be aware of deadlines for the other ISAC Programs.



**Federal Work Study** is a campus-based financial aid program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The goal of the program at NEIU is to provide students in need to work in worthwhile jobs on and off campus, while providing assistance to specific departments at the University or non-for-profit organizations off campus. Opportunity is provided to students in positions which may be related to their career goals to enhance their educational experience.

All students who complete their FAFSA early, demonstrate sufficient financial need, are enrolled in at least 6 credit hours, and are in a degree seeking program can be eligible. If you are interested, you must indicate so on your FAFSA.

**Student Aid Positions** are also available to qualifying students regardless of financial need. If you are interested in either program, we recommend that you contact the Student Employment Department for more information. Plan on coming out to the **Job Fair January 14th from 11am to 2pm at Alumni Hall** and visit NEIU's new job formation site at:

<http://neiu-csm.symplicity.com>.

