

# Invest an Additional \$50M in the Monetary Award Program

## All students deserve an affordable education.

For many Illinoisans, college is out of reach without substantial financial aid. In 1967, Illinois created MAP with the intent of covering the full cost of tuition at Illinois public colleges for all students from low-income families — but lagging state investment has led to a crisis for MAP and Illinois students.

**MAP is currently the single most powerful vehicle this state has to address affordability in an equitable way, providing grants to support:**



### Racial Equity

Over 50% of Latinx students and over 60% of Black students at IL public universities rely on MAP.



### First-Generation Students

57% of MAP recipients are first-generation college students.



### Students from Low-Income Households

The average household income of MAP recipients is barely above poverty line for a family of four.

## Investing in MAP is a critical investment in Illinois and our future.

**However, MAP's impact has been reduced by rising tuition costs due to underfunding.**

In February, Governor Pritzker proposed a \$10M increase into MAP for FY25. While recent years have seen more substantial investments into the program, this year's appropriation is not enough to support all students across the state who rely on MAP to fund their college education.

The \$10M increase will also not keep up with inflation and may result in the state having to offer smaller grants or return to denying grants to eligible applicants.

The Coalition is asking the state legislature to approve a \$50M increase into MAP, which will better support students and create greater affordability overall.

**Speak to your legislator about the importance of investing \$50M into MAP!**