

Planning Resource for Illinois “One Click College Admit” Direct Admission Configuration on Common App

2026–2027

Make your direct admissions set up a breeze by preparing your offer details in advance. Here are the offer configuration tasks your team will need to define:

1. Configure your minimum GPA requirements
 - a. **IBHEs**
 - i. Determine whether you'll use GPA weight
 - ii. Define your minimum GPA thresholds. **Please note:** The GPA minimums should be the same as the ones you provided to ISAC
 - b. **ICCBs**
 - i. Set minimum GPAs 0.0
2. Determine your residency requirements (based on institution type)
3. Document which programs or majors are not included
4. Determine your offer perks
 - a. **Please Note:** the application fee, personal essay, teacher evaluations and counselor recommendations are all waived for the *Illinois One Click College Admit* program.
 - b. Document any guaranteed financial aid for direct admissions recipients
5. Document any additional rescinding conditions or offer stipulations
6. Determine your offer campaign period

Note: The 2.0 version of Illinois One Click College Admit referenced throughout the document is the one in which students opted-in and ISAC will be providing Common App with the students' direct admissions offers. The 1.0 version is the one in which students provide their GPA within Common App and Common App matches the student with their direct admissions offers. Please configure all fields in the Control Center.

Configure your minimum GPA requirements

There are 2 elements of your configuration used as “selection criteria”. The first is the configuration of minimum GPAs, used to identify students eligible for direct admissions offers via the 1.0 version of Illinois One Click College Admit. Students that opted in to the 2.0 version will not need to provide GPAs within the Common App in order to receive a direct admissions offer.

Please remember that for the 1.0 version, Common App determines eligibility using **self-reported** student responses. Offers are considered conditional pending your review of student records. For 2.0, ISAC determined eligibility using GPA information provided by the student’s high school.

For ICCBs, set your minimum GPAs to 0.0 and skip to the “Determine your residency requirements” section.

Determine how you’ll use GPA weight

Determining how you want to account for weighted GPAs is an important first step in configuring your GPA thresholds. Self-reported GPAs are classified in our system as weighted, unweighted, or unspecified. When a student self-reports their GPA, they optionally choose whether to designate that GPA as weighted or unweighted. A GPA will be labeled “unspecified” if a student does not indicate their GPA as weighted or unweighted.

Most students (about 60%) report a weighted GPA, and roughly 12% of students do not report a GPA weight. Please keep these trends in mind when configuring your GPA minimums.

To set up your minimum GPA requirements, you’ll need to determine whether you want to factor these different GPA types into your selection criteria. You will have 2 options:

1. Ignore GPA weight when determining eligibility. This means you will simply identify **1 GPA** for each of the 4 supported scales. Students with a self-reported GPA at or above the GPA you establish will receive a direct admissions offer regardless of the GPA weight they self-report.
2. Consider GPA weight and configure a minimum for each GPA type. This means you will identify **3 GPAs** for each of the 4 supported scales: weighted, unweighted, and unspecified.

Define your minimum GPA thresholds

Common App will ask you for a minimum GPA threshold across the 4 most prominent GPA scales:

- 4.0 scale
- 5.0 scale
- 6.0 scale
- 100 scale

If your institution chooses to ignore GPA weight, you'll only need to provide 1 minimum number for each GPA scale. Otherwise, you will need to enter a weighted, unweighted, and unspecified number for each GPA scale (12 minimum GPA thresholds total).

Please ensure you are providing the same minimum GPAs that you provided to ISAC. If you're unsure of how your GPA minimums convert to different scales, you can use the Suggest GPAs functionality within the Control Center.

Determine your residency requirements

Residency is the second element of configuring your selection criteria. We'll use a student's permanent home address when determining whether they meet the residency requirements.

- **For IBHE Institutions:** Residency will be set for in-state, capturing all students listing a permanent home address in the state of Illinois.
- **For ICCB Institutions:** Residency will be set at the zip code level, capturing all students listing a permanent home address within the defined zip codes.
 - To upload a list of zip codes, please be sure that your file meets these requirements:
 - File type is .csv.
 - File name only uses letters and numbers.
 - File uses exactly 1 column.
 - Do not use a header row.
 - Maximum file size is 2000 KB.
 - Each entry must be a 5 digit U.S. zip code.
 - Zip codes should represent student permanent home address requirements, not school districts.

Document which programs or majors are not included

If particular majors or academic programs are excluded from your direct admissions offers, please be sure to list them in alphabetical order.

Determine your offer perks

When configuring your direct admissions offers, you'll have a few options that can help sweeten the deal.

Determine which application requirements you're willing to waive

Please note, for IL One Click College Admit, institutions will waive the personal essay, counselor recommendation, and teacher evaluation requirements.

Document any guaranteed financial aid for direct admissions recipients

Guaranteeing a financial aid award for direct admissions students can be a creative and powerful way to support enrollment. If your institution is able to offer guaranteed financial aid for your direct admissions recipients, please describe those details as if you were speaking with a student.

For example, "Direct admissions recipients will receive at least \$10,000 and up to \$20,000 per year over 4 years in merit-based aid. Additional need-based aid may also be awarded."

Document any additional rescinding conditions or offer stipulations

To accept a direct admissions offer, a student must submit their Common App to your institution. This includes their school report and official transcript. All direct admissions offers are considered conditional pending your official offer after reviewing students' records. This condition is included in all direct admissions offers sent to students.

If you have additional rescinding conditions or stipulations associated with your direct admissions offer, it's important students are aware of them before applying. Please describe those details as if you were speaking with a student.

For example, "Students must meet our [code of conduct](#)" or "Students must meet our [English proficiency requirements](#)." Linking out to specific documents or parts of your website can be incredibly helpful!

Determine your offer campaign period

Your institution will choose an approximate campaign start and end date for the 1.0 version. 2.0 offers will go out starting the week of August 24, regardless of the start date selected. 1.0 direct admission offers begin September 8 and run weekly throughout the year until the end of May.

When selecting a start date, please keep in mind that the date you enter may not be your exact campaign start date. Your campaign will begin on the next closest campaign run after your chosen start date.

When selecting an end date, please keep your latest available deadline in mind. Ensure that if a student receives a direct admissions offer, they can still apply to your institution.