



GRANTEE INFORMATION SESSION

FY27 Student Housing and Basic Needs Stability Project

Notice of Funding Opportunity overview and AmpliFund application walkthrough

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The Opportunity at a Glance



\$250,000

Total program funding

\$25,000

Maximum award per college

10

Anticipated awards

15%

Indirect cost cap



Who can apply

Illinois public community colleges; one application per college



Award type

Fixed Amount Award (GATA-exempt), state General Revenue Fund



Match

No cost sharing or matching required



Grant period

January 1, 2027 – December 30, 2027

Why This Grant Exists



- Supports colleges as they develop or expand campus-level supports for students experiencing homelessness, housing insecurity, or related basic needs insecurity.
- Strengthens collaboration with local resources so those supports reach further.
- Responds to a barrier identified by HOUSE Liaisons: not enough funding to fully support these students.
- The HOUSE Liaison role was established by the Higher Education Housing and Opportunities Act.

Key Dates



Plan to submit at least one day early. AmpliFund can slow down near deadlines, and some applications lock after submission.

Grant Objectives



Select at least one. ICCB recommends choosing only one, based on campus need and capacity.



OBJECTIVE 1

Campus-Level Supports, Outreach & Training

- Train faculty and staff to identify and refer students to the HOUSE Liaison
- Convene financial aid, student services, housing, and career services
- Outreach at locations beyond the main campus
- Targeted student outreach and events



OBJECTIVE 2

Direct Student Support Programs

- Basic needs and transportation support
- Support for families (e.g., childcare referrals)
- Agreements with temporary housing providers or hotels
- Emergency stipends to avoid eviction or secure housing
- Housing access during academic breaks



OBJECTIVE 3

Collaboration with Local Resources

- Facilitate regional conversations with external partners
- Partner with McKinney-Vento Liaisons on high school-to-college transitions
- Work with shelters, DV/SV centers, food pantries, and the local Continuum of Care
- Convene a regional Community of Practice

Your Application Package



Submit every component, in this order, each labeled with a header.

1

GATA-Exempt Grant Application

Complete every section in its entirety. Be as detailed as you can and if you know the information at the time.

2

Cover Page

College and contact info for President/CEO, CFO, and Project Coordinator, plus the required statement

3

Abstract

One page max: activities, staff and partners, principal objectives

4

Project Narrative

Six pages max, double-spaced, 12-pt font; charts count toward the limit

5

Letters of Commitment

Signed letters from new partners; confirm ongoing partnerships (if applicable)

6

Uniform Budget

State of Illinois Uniform Grant Budget Template. Do not enter individual expenses/multiple line items in the Euna budget.

REQUIRED COVER PAGE STATEMENT

"This application is being submitted on behalf of <Institution's Name>, and, if awarded, the applicant agrees to abide by the provisions and guidelines set forth in the application and by the ICCB. Furthermore, the application has been approved by an individual authorized to act on behalf of the institution."

Project Narrative: Sections in Order



Six pages maximum. Use a header for each section.

1

Basic Project Information

Scope, impact, and target student population

2

Statement of Need

Institutional data showing need for more services

3

Program Justification

Data on potential student impact

4

Fiscal Need

Explain financial need; reviewers may not know your finances

5

Goals, Objectives, Indicators & Work Plan

Measurable goals, activities, timeline, owners, students served

6

Partnerships

New letters of commitment or confirmation of existing partners

7

Desired Impact

Students previously served and anticipated to serve

8

Capacity and Experience

Past similar programs; fiscal and compliance capacity

9

Scalability or Replicability

How you will share work statewide, including the HOUSE Summit

10

Contingency Plan

What happens if funds can't be spent as planned or you aren't funded

Building Your Budget



Use the State of Illinois Uniform Grant Budget Template (on the ICCB website) and the Euna/AmpliFund budget (by category total — must match.)



Narrative + line items

Every funded category needs a narrative and a line-item breakdown.



Reasonable and necessary

All costs must tie directly to your program objectives.



Not allowable

Gifts, giveaways, and swag.



Spend within the period

Confirm your capacity to spend all funds during the grant period.

NEW FOR FY27

Direct student support goes in the Grant Exclusive tab

- Includes funds a student receives directly or indirectly: stipends, tuition and fees, housing costs, food benefits, transportation, childcare, books, and supplies.
- Grant Exclusive lines are not part of the indirect cost base.
- Items the college keeps (loaner laptops, lending libraries) stay in their usual budget tab.
- Stipends are allowed; follow ICCB's Guidance for Student Stipends within Grant Programs.

Indirect Costs

15%

of the total award is the cap

This is a cap, not an alternate rate. Apply your approved indirect cost rate (as documented in the GATA Grantee Portal) to eligible categories until you reach the cap.

To charge indirect costs you need one of these:



Federally Negotiated Rate

For colleges with direct federal funding and a rate from their Federal Cognizant Agency. ICCB accepts it.



State Negotiated Rate

For colleges without a federal rate. Submit the rate proposal to the State within 90 days of notice of award.

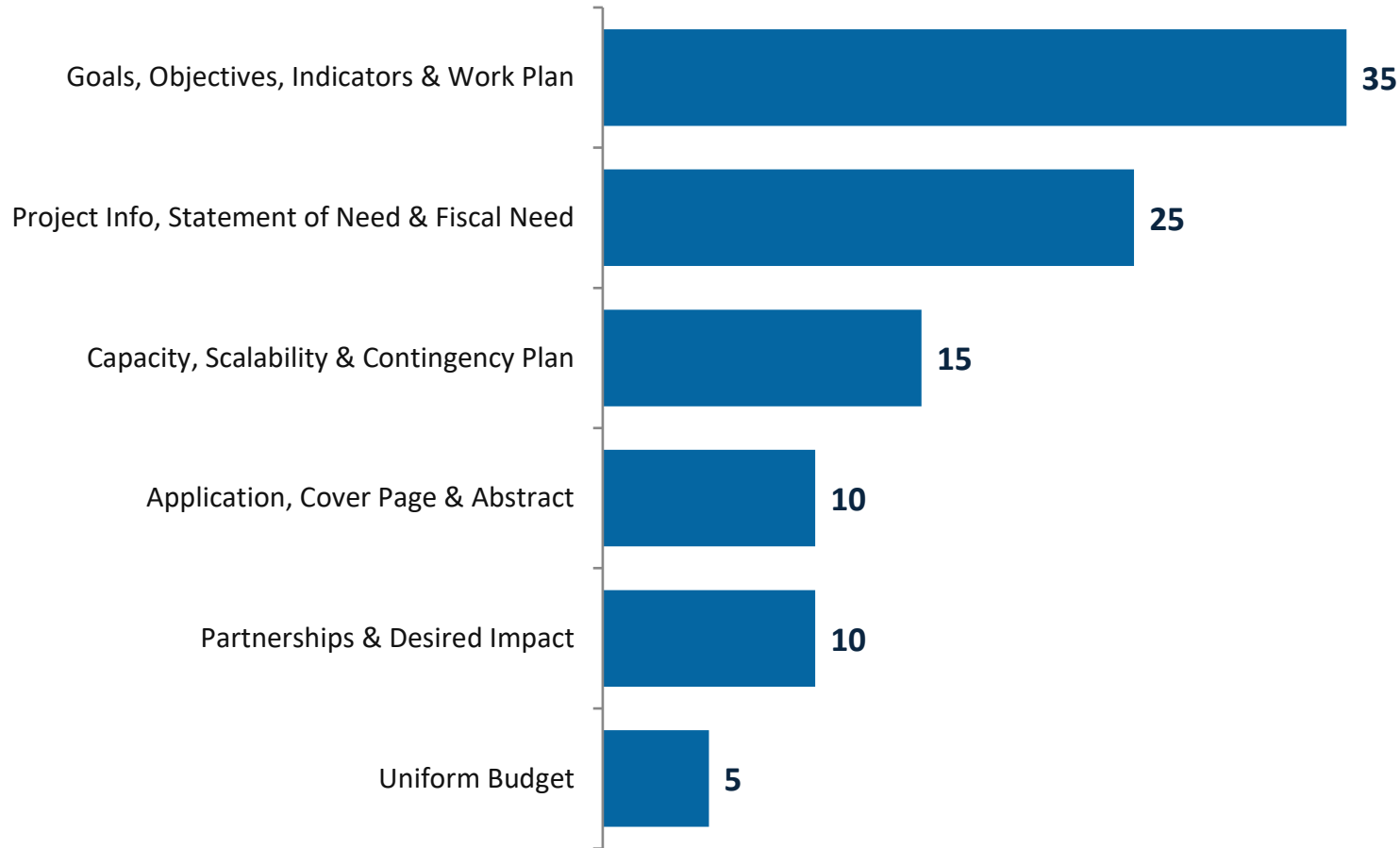


De Minimis Rate

For colleges that have never had a negotiated rate: 15% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). May be used indefinitely once elected.

How Applications Are Scored

ICCB staff review each application against a 100-point rubric.



60 of 100 points

come from your need statement and your goals, indicators, and work plan. Invest your writing time there: use local data and make every goal measurable.

Submitting in Euna/AmpliFund



Paper applications are not accepted.

1

Log in

Open the AmpliFund login page, then find the opportunity under Funding Opportunities or Applications and select Apply.

2

Organization info

College name and address, contact, UEI number, project director. Red asterisk (*) = required.

3

Upload attachments

Abstract, narrative, work plan, letters. Use clear, consistent file names.

4

Enter budget

Check that totals are correct, match your narrative, and indirect stays within the 15% cap. on the total award.

5

Validate

Run Validate and fix every missing field, attachment, and budget error.

6

Submit & confirm

Submit, then confirm the on-screen message, the email, and 'Submitted' status.



Click Save after every section. Validate thoroughly before you submit: applications may lock once submitted.

Avoiding Common Issues



PROBLEM	SOLUTION
Can't submit	Required fields are missing. Run Validate to find them.
Budget error	Row or column totals don't match. Review each category.
Upload failed	File too large or wrong format. Check size limit and type.
Formatting looks off	Paste text as plain text to strip hidden formatting.
Missing section	Mark each section complete before submitting.

Recommended workflow

- 1 Draft narrative, work plan, and objectives in Word
- 2 Review internally for accuracy and compliance
- 3 Upload final content with clear file names
- 4 Validate early and fix errors
- 5 Submit at least one day before the deadline

If You Are Funded



Grantee deliverables

- Carry out the proposed scope of work for your selected objective(s)
- Meet or exceed all indicators of performance
- Submit required progress reports with programmatic, performance, and expenditure data
- Participate in professional development and technical assistance, and present at the Annual HOUSE Liaison Summit
- Share student success stories while protecting confidentiality
- Submit final programmatic and fiscal closeout reports within 60 days of the grant end

Spending deadlines



Obligate funds

By the end of the grant period



Deliver services

Fully within the grant period; no prepaying multi-year contracts



Receive goods

Within 60 days after the grant ends (unless extended in writing)



Expend funds

Within 60 days after the grant ends

No extensions will be given for spending funds.

Questions?



Email all questions to

iccb.studentservices@illinois.gov

Subject line: [Organization's Name] FY27 Student Housing and Basic Needs Stability Project
Answers are posted in an FAQ on the ICCB website.



Grant program contact

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Applications due November 6, 2026, 11:55 p.m. CT