Fall 2017-Spring 2018 International Student Partial Tuition Waiver

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at Illinois State University offers a merit-based partial tuition waiver for continuing undergraduate and graduate international students. The waiver is awarded at a maximum rate of $5,000 for the fall semester and $5,000 for the spring semester to be applied to TUITION ONLY (not including general fees). Amounts awarded will be determined based on availability of funds, semester eligibility, and application rankings.

A. The partial tuition waiver may be awarded for both the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters. All students wishing to receive funding for future semesters will be required to reapply for the waiver.

B. In order to be awarded and receive a partial tuition waiver, recipients must:
   1. Remain in good academic and disciplinary standing during the award period;
   2. Not hold a graduate assistantship during the semester(s) the award is given; AND
   3. Participate in at least five (5) intercultural programs for each semester that a student is awarded either on campus or the surrounding community and complete a report regarding attendance and observance of events.*

   *Note: Award recipients who do not meet this requirement for any given semester will be ineligible to receive or apply for any future funding through the International Student Partial Tuition Waiver.

C. Awards are not transferrable between semesters. Any unused award amount (due to part-time enrollment, graduate assistantship, etc.) will be given to the next qualified student on the waitlist.

D. Applicants are expected to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct. Applications found to contain plagiarized content will be sent to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for review. Any applicants found to have plagiarized will lose any awarded funding and will be ineligible to apply for future funding through the International Student Partial Tuition Waiver.

Eligibility

The International Student Partial Tuition Waiver is awarded on a competitive basis to applicants who:

1. Are citizens of countries other than the United States;
2. Are not United States citizens or permanent residents;
3. Will be enrolled at ISU as an undergraduate or graduate student in Fall 2017 and/or Spring 2018; AND
4. Have completed at least 2 semesters at Illinois State University or at the English Language Institute (connected to Illinois State University) prior to the Fall 2017 or Spring 2018 semester.*

   *Note: If a student will not be eligible for the award until Spring 2018, the student may still apply for the waiver and will only be considered for Spring 2018 funding up to $5,000.
Preference is given to students who hold F-1 or J-1 visas.

**Application Procedures**

Applicants must provide the following information, in English:

1. The International Student Partial Tuition Waiver Application—available directly on our website.
2. A 250-500 word essay in which the applicant describes his or her interest in international activities and current involvement in activities or groups that promote internationalization on Illinois State University's campus or surrounding community.
3. Two letters of recommendation. An Illinois State University faculty member who has taught the applicant must write one of the letters (this includes English Language Institute teachers). Said letter must address the academic ability of the applicant.
4. A signed and dated Statement of Registration Compliance.

All application documents will be submitted online via Reggienet. If a student requires a paper copy due to reasonable accommodations, the student may request an application through ISSS.

**Application Deadline**

Complete applications, following the procedures outlined above, must be submitted no later than August 1, 2017 at midnight Central Standard Time. Incomplete applications will not be considered and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete.

**Selection Process and Criteria**

A committee composed of Illinois State University staff members will review applications for the International Student Partial Tuition Waiver. The committee will select the applicants who most successfully demonstrate:

1. Strong academic background and progress as illustrated by GPA and letters of recommendation;
2. Active involvement in campus or community activities as evident in the essay;
3. Effective communication skills as evident in the essay; AND
4. Active and creative interest in promoting intercultural understanding as evident in the essay.

Ranking information will be held strictly confidential.

**Notification**

**Applicants will be notified via theirilstu email account of the selection committee decision on or before August 15, 2017.** Any eligible student who is not awarded the partial tuition waiver will be placed on a waitlist and contacted in the order they are ranked by the committee, should funding become available. The waitlist is determined by rankings by committee; this information is held strictly confidential.

**Questions**

Students who have questions about the International Student Partial Tuition Waiver process should contact ISSS at internationalstudents@ilstu.edu or (309) 438-5276.