



Illinois: Parent PLUS Median Debt at Independent Colleges

College Scorecard Planning Screen | Debt Originated at the Reporting Institution

Prepared by Campus Access Partners | July 2026

This report uses College Scorecard Parent PLUS median-debt data to identify where parent borrowing has historically functioned as a multi-year financing tool at independent colleges in Illinois. The principal planning marker is the new **\$65,000 Parent PLUS aggregate maximum**. Because these figures are medians, roughly half of measured completer borrower files are at or above the reported amount.

The primary measure is Parent PLUS debt originated at the reporting institution for students who completed. The figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data and should be validated against current campus records before operational decisions.

Illinois: Statewide Planning Information

Metric	Read	Metric	Read
New Parent PLUS aggregate maximum	\$65,000	Independent colleges represented	58
Reported completer medians	40	Median of reported medians	\$28,982
At or above \$65K	1	Near \$65K (\$55K-\$64,999)	3
Highest reported median	\$81,584	Highest institution	School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Independent Colleges

Rows are sorted by median Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. The completer median is the primary planning signal; the all-borrower median is included as secondary context. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
School of the Art Institute of Chicago	\$61,555	\$81,584	262	10-20%	Above \$65K
Loyola University Chicago	\$54,462	\$63,000	1,288	10-20%	Near \$65K
University of Chicago	\$53,992	\$55,769	140	0-5%	Near \$65K
Columbia College Chicago	\$40,439	\$55,642	864	15-20%	Near \$65K
DePaul University	\$41,000	\$48,891	2,012	15-20%	Elevated
Northwestern University	\$44,255	\$48,053	202	0-5%	Elevated
Illinois Wesleyan University	\$35,859	\$47,679	167	15-20%	Elevated
Bradley University	\$35,920	\$46,707	484	15-20%	Elevated
Wheaton College	\$34,303	\$40,900	138	5-10%	Elevated
Illinois Institute of Technology	\$31,823	\$39,321	190	10-15%	Elevated
Augustana College	\$30,000	\$37,575	274	10-20%	Elevated
Roosevelt University	\$22,000	\$35,301	364	10-15%	Elevated
Lake Forest College	\$25,878	\$34,896	110	5-15%	Monitor
Greenville University	\$18,145	\$34,037	104	15-20%	Monitor
North Central College	\$23,000	\$30,000	287	10-20%	Monitor
North Park University	\$20,000	\$29,594	37	10-15%	Monitor
Judson University	\$15,020	\$29,410	47	5-10%	Monitor

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
Eureka College	\$20,461	\$29,402	38	10-15%	Monitor
Lewis University	\$24,528	\$29,100	377	5-15%	Monitor
Olivet Nazarene University	\$19,191	\$29,017	300	10-20%	Monitor
Trinity International University-Illinois	\$20,831	\$28,946	40	5-10%	Monitor
Benedictine University	\$21,794	\$28,875	279	10-15%	Monitor
Millikin University	\$17,840	\$28,207	211	15-20%	Monitor
McKendree University	\$19,987	\$27,742	203	10-20%	Monitor
Rockford University	\$16,946	\$27,659	93	10-20%	Monitor
University of St Francis	\$21,949	\$27,317	216	10-20%	Monitor
Knox College	\$23,851	\$27,252	105	5-15%	Monitor
Monmouth College	\$17,000	\$27,070	132	20-30%	Monitor
Elmhurst University	\$23,457	\$25,293	252	10-15%	Monitor
Methodist College	\$21,555	\$25,000	39	0-5%	Monitor
National Louis University	\$17,919	\$22,698	77	0-5%	Monitor
Trinity Christian College	\$17,400	\$21,050	59	5-10%	Monitor
Dominican University	\$19,000	\$20,988	153	5-10%	Monitor
Illinois College	\$16,745	\$20,113	90	10-15%	Monitor
Concordia University-Chicago	\$15,500	\$20,037	80	5-10%	Monitor
Blackburn College	\$14,810	\$19,270	21	5-15%	Lower signal
Saint Xavier University	\$15,954	\$19,100	208	5-10%	Lower signal
Quincy University	\$15,868	\$18,200	51	10-15%	Lower signal
Aurora University	\$16,212	\$18,000	299	5-10%	Lower signal
Moody Bible Institute	\$12,694	\$14,000	31	0-5%	Lower signal
Adler University	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
American Islamic College	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
Blessing Rieman College of Nursing and Health Sciences	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
CAAN Academy of Nursing	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
East-West University	\$17,875	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Generations College	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Hebrew Theological College	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Lakeview College of Nursing	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-10%	Suppressed
Morrison Institute of Technology	\$14,596	N/A	33	40-45%	Suppressed
National University of Health Sciences	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Principia College	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
Rush University	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
Saint Anthony College of Nursing	\$24,450	N/A	N/A	10-15%	Suppressed
Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing	\$20,967	N/A	44	5-15%	Suppressed
St. John's College	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-10%	Suppressed
Telshe Yeshiva-Chicago	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
VanderCook College of Music	\$41,134	N/A	N/A	15-20%	Suppressed

Public Comparison Schools

The three largest public bachelor's-or-higher institutions in Illinois by undergraduate enrollment are included for reference and are not part of the independent-college distribution.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	\$32,322	\$37,086	3,234	10-15%	Elevated
University of Illinois Chicago	\$21,310	\$23,825	1,101	0-10%	Monitor
Illinois State University	\$24,738	\$30,970	1,457	5-15%	Monitor

Source and Method Note

Universe: Main-campus, private nonprofit colleges with reported undergraduate enrollment, plus the three largest main-campus public bachelor's-or-higher institutions by undergraduate enrollment. **Data:** U.S. Department of Education College Scorecard Most Recent Cohorts Institution file uploaded for this project. **Primary field:** Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. **Timing:** Figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.