

# Draft Email to Community Leaders (Scholarship-Focused)

Subject: Important Scholarship Opportunity for Families Impacted by Energy Facility Closures

Dear [Community Leader Name],

I'm reaching out to share an important educational opportunity for families in our community. The **Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program**, administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), provides **one year of tuition and fees at any Illinois public university or community college** for the **children, adopted children, and stepchildren** of eligible displaced energy workers. The scholarship can be received more than once.

This scholarship is specifically designed to support communities affected by the closure or reduced operation of coal plants, gas plants, and coal mines across Illinois.

## Why this matters for our community

Many families who qualify are unaware of the program — especially those where the displaced worker has since found new employment. **Reemployment does not affect eligibility.** If a parent or guardian lost their job due to a qualifying facility closure or reduction **on or after September 15, 2016**, their dependents may be eligible.

## Key information to share

### Who is eligible:

- Dependents (including adopted and stepchildren) of workers laid off due to the closure or reduced operation of a coal plant, gas plant, or coal mine since **September 15, 2016**.

### Reemployment does not matter:

- Even if the displaced worker has found another job, their dependents remain eligible.

### What the scholarship covers:

- One year of tuition and mandatory fees at any Illinois public university or community college. Students may apply for undergraduate or graduate study. The scholarship may be received more than once.

### Required documentation:

- Proof of job loss due to a qualifying closure or reduction, such as:
  - Employer letter or separation certification
  - Union representative verification

Unemployment insurance records

- Documentation must include the effective date of separation.

**Financial need:**

- No proof of financial need is required beyond submitting the application.

**Deadlines:**

- Applications are typically due three times per year (fall, spring, summer). Families should check ISAC's website for current dates.

## How you can help

Your support can make a meaningful difference. We encourage you to:

- Share this scholarship information through your organization's newsletters, email lists, or social media
- Notify local partners, union members, and civic groups
- Encourage families who may be eligible to review the program and apply

## Where to learn more

Full program details and the application are available at:

[www.isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships/DEWDTSP.html](http://www.isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships/DEWDTSP.html)

If you have questions or would like assistance sharing this information, please feel free to reach out to us at [insert contact information].

Thank you for your leadership and for helping ensure that families in energy transition communities have access to the educational opportunities they deserve.