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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ISAC CUTS TO AFFECT EIU STUDENTS

CHARLESTON, IL--As a result of action taken by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to reduce 1991-92 Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants, Eastern Illinois University students are being billed for the cost of the cut in those grants.

The decision to bill the students was made recently by the systems heads of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Board of Governors, the Board of Regents, the University of Illinois system and Southern Illinois University system.

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The ISAC, which grants the need-based MAP scholarships to the universities, announced last week to reduce 1991-92 grants by 12 percent or \$11 million, on second semester awards, in response to recent state budget cuts and increases in unanticipated grants for the fall semester.

"The 12 percent cut means Eastern will receive 12 percent less grant funds this spring (approximately \$233,700). To make up that difference, some 2,000 EIU students who receive MAP grants will be required to pay back between \$18 and \$141, depending on the size of their grant," according to John Flynn, Eastern's Director of Financial Aid.