

# LEARN MORE

INDIANA'S GUIDE TO STUDENT SUCCESS

GRADES 9-10

COMPLETE THE  
**SCHOLAR  
SUCCESS  
PROGRAM!**

*There's a  
College  
Option  
for  
Everyone!*

**Frank**  
10th grade



**Start  
Building  
Your  
Resume**

Enter for  
a chance to win  
**\$529**  
for college!

A partnership of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education,  
Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Department of Workforce Development



# DEAR INDIANA STUDENTS,

**W**elcome to **Learn More!** This is your guide to reaching your college and career goals. Whether you're interested in a career in education, IT, manufacturing, health science—or something entirely different—**Learn More** can help you plan for your future. In this magazine you'll learn about:

- growing careers in Indiana,
- your college options and
- how to cut the costs of higher education.

Your path to success starts now—and that means taking the right steps to prepare yourself for life after high school. Don't wait: Flip through these pages and start learning about how you can reach your goals. And, check out Learn More Indiana's annual campaigns to find out what you can do this year to prepare for the future. **College GO!** (August - November), **Cash for College** (December - March) and **Career Ready** (April - July) have information and fun activities to help you turn your dreams into a reality.

After you finish the magazine, visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/contest](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/contest) to enter for a chance to win \$529 in a college savings account.

Have a great school year!

# DEAR INDIANA PARENTS,

**Learn More** isn't just for kids. There are important steps you too can take to help your child stay on track. Explore this magazine, and be sure to check out the parent section on page 19 of **Learn More** to learn about ways you can ensure your child is prepared for college and career success.

And, if you're thinking about going back to school yourself, there's never been a better time! Indiana has financial aid programs just for adult students. Learn more about these great opportunities on page 19 or by visiting [LearnMoreIndiana.org/statefinancialaid](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/statefinancialaid).



*Eric Holcomb*

**Eric Holcomb**  
Governor,  
State of Indiana



*Jennifer McCormick*

**Jennifer McCormick**  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction,  
Indiana Department  
of Education



*Teresa Lubbers*

**Teresa Lubbers**  
Commissioner,  
Indiana Commission  
for Higher Education

## CONTENTS

### CAREER 4-8

- What is a Career? ..... 4
- Architecture and Construction ..... 4
- Business Management and Administration ..... 5
- Health Science ..... 5
- Manufacturing ..... 6
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics ..... 6
- Developing Your Skills ..... 7
- Building Your Resume ..... 8

### COLLEGE 9-14

- What is College? ..... 9
- Consider Your Options ..... 10
- College Visit Worksheet ..... 12
- Indiana College Map ..... 13
- Preparing for Your Future ..... 14

### COST 15-19

- Paying For College Begins Today! .. 15
- Financial Aid From Indiana ..... 16
- Scholarship Success Tips ..... 17
- My College Budget ..... 18
- Parent's Page ..... 19



# STUDENT CHECKLIST

## CAREER

Take a career interests assessment at [IndianaCareerExplorer.com](http://IndianaCareerExplorer.com) to find careers that fit your interests and skills.

Job shadow a professional or volunteer in a career field that interests you to get workplace experience you can put on your resume. Learn more on page 8.

Challenge yourself with rigorous courses related to your career field. Advanced Placement (AP), Dual-Credit, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses are all great options.

## COLLEGE

Start (and maintain) your high school graduation plan. Talk to your school counselor or learn more at [LearnMoreIndiana.org/graduation-plan](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/graduation-plan).

Earn the right high school diploma for your college and career goals. Research apprenticeships, workforce training and college options to find out which diploma type they prefer.

Visit a college campus. Indiana has over 50 colleges; check out the Indiana college map on page 13 to find a campus near you.

## COST

Succeed in school. Earning good grades and participating in extracurricular activities will increase your chances of earning a scholarship.

Save money for college on your own or in a CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan.

Visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/contest](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/contest) to enter for a chance to win \$529 in a CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan.



*FRANK is a sophomore at Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis. He's interested in a career as a video game designer. To prepare for his future career, he's researching vintage video games and he's even written code for his own video game.*

## Parent Checklist

1. Start, or continue, to talk to your child about college plans as if he or she will definitely go. No matter your child's goal, there is a postsecondary option.
2. Keep an eye on your child's study habits, grades and the classes he or she is taking. Stay involved and encourage your child to take challenging courses.
3. Start or continue saving for your child's education. Learn More about the CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan on page 19.
4. Find out about college or financial aid nights at your child's school, and estimate how much financial aid your child may receive at [IndianaCollegeCosts.org](http://IndianaCollegeCosts.org).

**BONUS:** Check out page 19 to learn more about supporting your child's college and career plans. And, if you're interested in going back to school yourself, learn about financial aid options Indiana has for you.

# CAREER

**T**here are all kinds of careers—and they're all important. From art to zoology, Indiana needs Hoosiers working in many different career fields. When choosing a career path, consider your talents and interests to find a career you'll enjoy and be good at.

To get a good career, you need to have the right qualifications. To be qualified for most jobs, you need to go to college. In fact, nearly two-thirds of all jobs require some form of college education, whether that is a certificate, degree or other quality credential. College is an important step in your career path.

When people apply for a job, they usually submit a **resume**, or a document that presents a person's background and skills. Resumes usually include sections on your education, experience and skills. A resume is your first chance to impress a potential employer, so you want to make sure it represents you well! Start thinking about workplace experiences and skills you can obtain in high school to start building your resume now, and check out pages 7 and 8 to learn more about creating your resume and developing your skills!

If working with your hands is more your style, you may consider a career as a **construction worker, electrician or plumber**. Each of these careers helps build, maintain and repair structures based upon an architect's design. Many careers in construction require a certificate (one year), associate degree (two years) or an apprenticeship (two to five years). An apprenticeship allows you to work in the field to learn your occupation (and get paid!).



## ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

### Indiana College and Career Pathways: Commercial & Residential Facilities, Construction Trades and Drafting & Design\*

Careers in architecture and construction design, plan, build and maintain the built environment. Whether you like to work in the field or in an office, there is a job for you in this career field.

If you're creative and detail-oriented, you may be interested in a career as an **architect**. Architecture combines art and math skills to develop eye-catching and safe structures. In order to plan and design structures as an architect, you will need a master's degree (bachelor's degree plus two years).

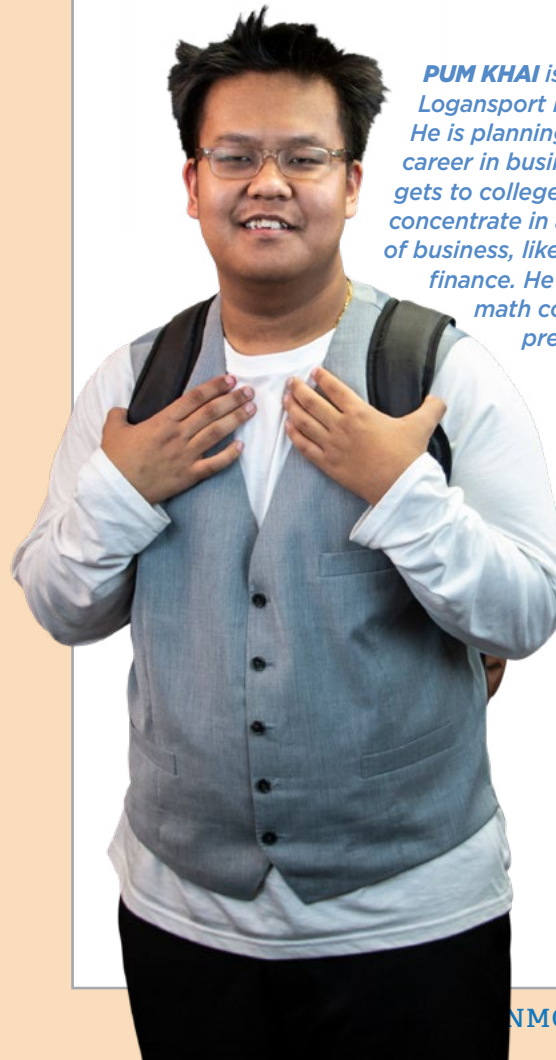
\*For more information about Indiana College and Career Pathways, visit [doe.in.gov/cte/indiana-college-career-pathways](http://doe.in.gov/cte/indiana-college-career-pathways).

## BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

### Indiana College and Career Pathway: Business Administration

It takes a team of people with different skills to make a business successful. Businesses have departments like production, research, marketing, human resources, customer service and finance, so there are a lot of career opportunities available.

If you are interested in providing the plan and direction for how things should operate, you may be interested in becoming a **general or operations manager**. Managers may work in a specific department, or they may oversee several departments. If you like numbers and are interested in keeping track of the money that a business earns and spends, **accounting** may be a good fit. If you prefer to provide assistance to customers, you may consider a career as a **customer service representative**. Each of these positions requires a level of education that ranges from a certificate to a master's degree.



*PUM KHAI is a senior at Logansport High School. He is planning to pursue a career in business. When he gets to college, he'll choose to concentrate in a specific area of business, like marketing or finance. He is taking AP math courses to prepare for college.*

## HEALTH SCIENCE

### Indiana College and Career Pathways: Biomedical, Dental, Healthcare Specialties and Nursing

Health science is an important career in Indiana and around the world. People who work in health science take care of patients and research and develop cures for diseases. There are even career opportunities in health science that let you help people without working with patients. Hospitals need administrators, IT professionals and more to run smoothly and efficiently.

One of the most popular careers in health science is **nursing**. You'll need an associate degree, bachelor's degree, or even a master's degree to be a nurse, depending on the type of care you'd like to administer to patients. Many careers in health science require a doctorate degree (bachelor's degree plus four years of medical school). Even after they earn their degree, doctors need several more years of special training, which they usually complete at a hospital. For example, **physicians** and **surgeons** diagnose and treat patients.

*LIAN is a sophomore at Lincoln High School. She is interested in becoming a nurse practitioner. Nurse practitioners usually earn their bachelor's degree and get a couple years of experience before pursuing their master's degree. This allows them to choose a specialty (like pediatrics or acute care) for their master's degree.*



## MANUFACTURING

### Indiana College and Career Pathways: Advanced Manufacturing, Electronics, Logistics & Supply Chain Management, Machine Technology and Welding

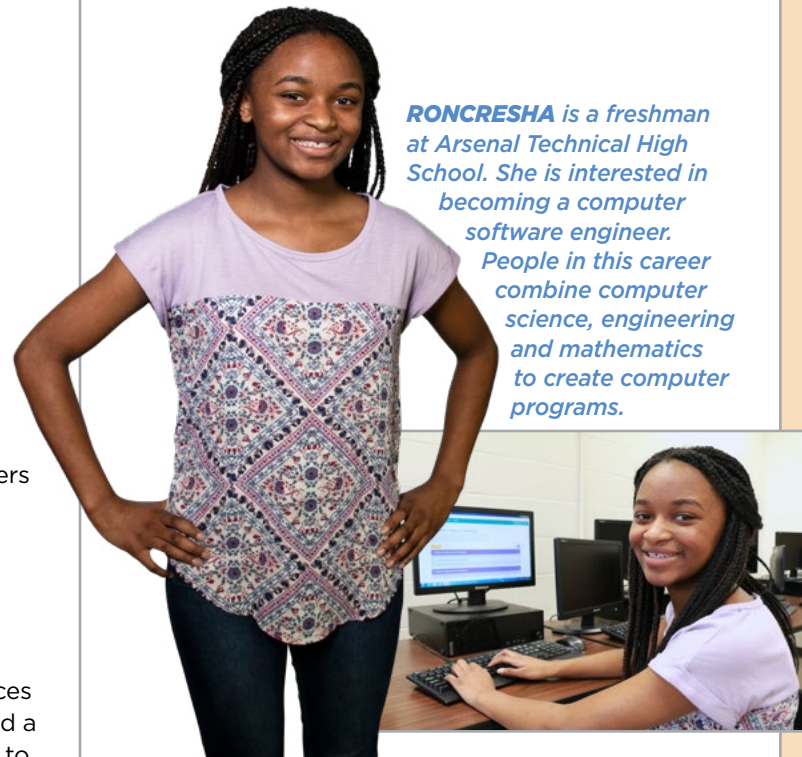
In Indiana, there are thousands of people working in manufacturing. Those who work in manufacturing plan, manage and perform the processes involved in turning raw materials into final products for consumers to buy and use.

While factories used to be a dirty and harsh environment, many are now high-tech and clean facilities. They often use robots, computers and machines to create products, rather than relying on workers to create things by hand. Because of advances in technology, many who work in manufacturing need a certificate, an associate degree or an apprenticeship to learn how to operate the computers and machines.

In today's industry of manufacturing, machinists and welders are in high-demand. **Machinists** set up and run computers and machines that create products.

**Welders** use hand-welding or flame-cutting equipment to weld or join metal components.

*LIBERTY is a freshman at Logansport High School. She is interested in becoming a welder. She is taking welding classes at her school's career center to prepare for her future.*



*RONCRESHA is a freshman at Arsenal Technical High School. She is interested in becoming a computer software engineer. People in this career combine computer science, engineering and mathematics to create computer programs.*

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS

### Indiana College and Career Pathway: Engineering

Careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) plan, manage and provide scientific research and development services. Physical sciences, social sciences and engineering all fall under the field of STEM.

If you like figuring out problems and learning how things work, you may consider a career as an **engineer**. Engineers have different concentrations including mechanical, electrical, civil and more. If you prefer to work outside and care about the environment, you could be an **environmental scientist**. This career conducts research to identify how certain products and events impact the earth. Or if math is your favorite subject, you may explore a career as a **statistician**. Statisticians develop or apply mathematical theories that help to provide useful information to various fields such as agriculture, business, economics or even sports.

Most careers in STEM require a bachelor's degree or a master's degree. If you're interested in a career in this field, be sure to take a lot of science and math classes in high school to prepare for college.

## DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS

**Employability skills**, or soft skills, are transferable skills that make a person employable. There a lot of employability skills you may already be developing through your courses or extracurricular activities, such as public speaking experience in student council or writing skills in yearbook staff. You can show off your employability skills on a resume to help you find an internship or a part-time job! Think of the activities you're involved with and relate them to skills you've gained below.

**Hint:** here's a list of some of the top employability skills, according to NACE (The National Association of Colleges and Employers): leadership, teamwork, communication skills (written and verbal), problem-solving skills, work ethic, initiative, analytical skills, interpersonal skills, computer skills, attention to detail, and organization.

| ACTIVITIES               | SKILLS   |
|--------------------------|--|
| Example: Student Council | Communication, Motivation, Fundraising and Public Speaking |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |
|                          |  |



### CAREER READY

Learn more about careers during **Career Ready**, every April through July! Visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/career](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/career) to learn more.

## BUILDING YOUR RESUME

When it comes time to start searching for workplace experiences, it's important to have a **resume**. A resume is a document that presents a person's background and skills, which can be sent to prospective employers. It's never too early to start building up a great resume with your education, experiences and employability skills!

The first step to writing your resume is to **gather information** about yourself. Consider your work experience, volunteer experience, skills, accomplishments and education. An easy way to begin is to jot down every position or experience you've had. Although not all of them may be included in your final resume, brainstorming will help you get all your ideas on the page.

The second step is to **research** the job or internship you're applying for. Check the description of the job you're applying to and relate your experiences and skills to the qualifications. Common transferrable skills are communication, creativity, leadership and more.



### SAMANTHA STUDENT



123 Main Street, Indianatown, Indiana 12345 | (123) 456-0987  
samanthastudent@email.com

#### OBJECTIVE

Seeking a position where I can use my interpersonal skills while continuing to grow as a valued employee.

#### SKILLS

- Computer skills
- Good listener
- Good at math
- Strong communication skills
- Creativity
- Leadership
- Handling cash and credit card transactions

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Honor roll in 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Perfect attendance, 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Science Club president, 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Junior varsity tennis team, 9<sup>th</sup> grade

#### EXPERIENCE

- Salesperson at Smith Valley Gifts, 2017-2018
- Counterperson, McBurgers, 2016-2017
- Dog walker, 2016-present
- Science Club, 2015-present
- Volunteer, Food Bank of Indianatown, 2015-present

#### EDUCATION

- Advanced courses in High School
- High School Graduation year: 2020
- Plan to attend State University

#### REFERENCES

- Roberta Jones, General Manager, Smith Valley Gifts (123-456-7890)
- Consuelo Lopez, Night Manager, McBurgers (123-987-6543)
- Mr. Smith, Science teacher (BOSmith@IndianaSchool.org)
- Ms. Taylor, Computer teacher (TSTaylor@IndianaSchool.org)

The third step is to **format** your resume. It is important that you remember to include contact information such as your name, phone number, address and email. You will also need to include relevant information about your work history, skills and educational background. Check out the sample resume above and research resume formats online for ideas.

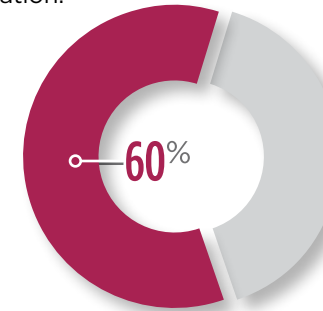
The fourth and most important step is to **proofread** your resume. An employer wants to see that you are professional and polished, and misspellings and grammatical errors may cause you to be passed over. You should have a friend or teacher proofread your resume as well. A fresh set of eyes can catch errors you may have missed.

*NATALYA is a sophomore at Logansport High School. She wants to be an orthopedic surgeon. She has gained skills to put on her resume through her involvement in clubs at her school. She is in Key Club and Spanish Club, and she serves as the manager for her school's cross country team!*

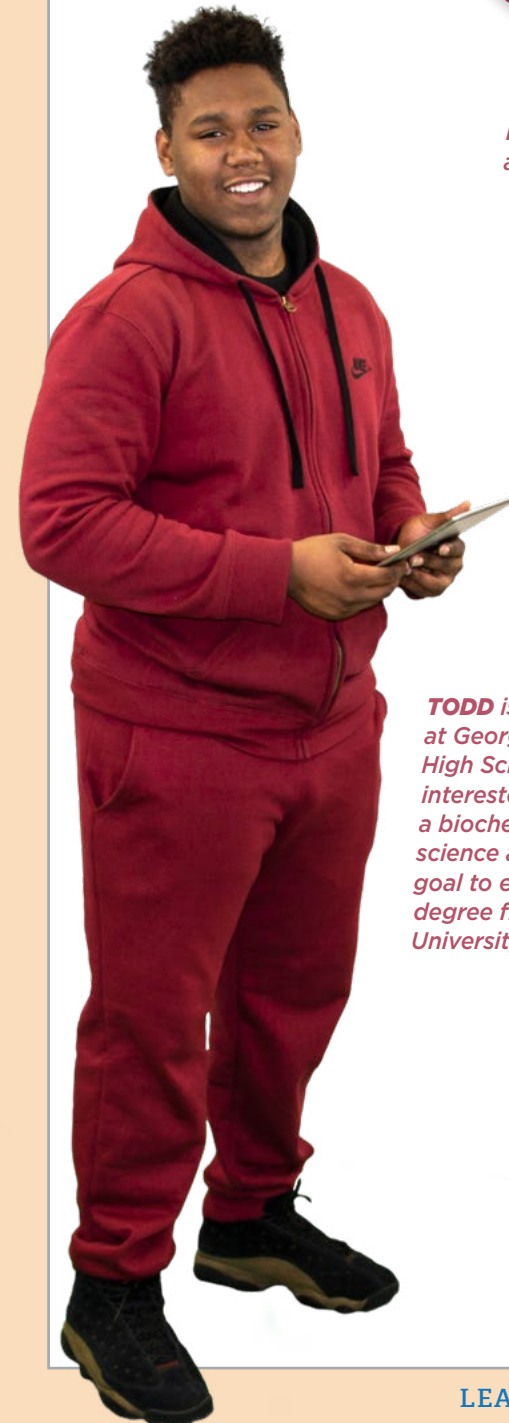
## COLLEGE

**M**aybe your dream career has a clear path through college and into your first job. Maybe you're not sure where you're headed, or what you need to do to get there. Either way, you should start out with a plan that includes postsecondary education.

The latest statistics predict **nearly two-thirds of job openings** in Indiana will require a college degree or credential!



*Nearly two-thirds of job openings in Indiana will require a college degree or credential!*



*TODD is a sophomore at George Washington High School, and he is interested in becoming a biochemist. He enjoys science and has set a goal to earn a bachelor's degree from Purdue University.*

Creating a plan to get you to your postsecondary pathway isn't as hard as it sounds. It's important to talk to your school counselor and research admissions requirements for the colleges you're interested in to determine which diploma is the best fit for you.

### Consider your Indiana diploma options:

- Core 40 diploma
- Core 40 with Academic Honors
- Core 40 with Technical Honors
- International Baccalaureate (not offered at all schools)

Every high school freshman in Indiana is required to create a graduation plan, and you should make updates as your plans change or solidify in the coming years. It's the smartest way to make sure you're on track to take the right courses, earn the best diploma for you, and get you where you need to go. Talk to your school counselor, and check out an online graduation plan at [IndianaCareerExplorer.com](http://IndianaCareerExplorer.com).



### COLLEGE GO!

Learn more about college during **College GO!**, every August through November! Visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/college](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/college) to learn more.

## CONSIDER YOUR OPTIONS

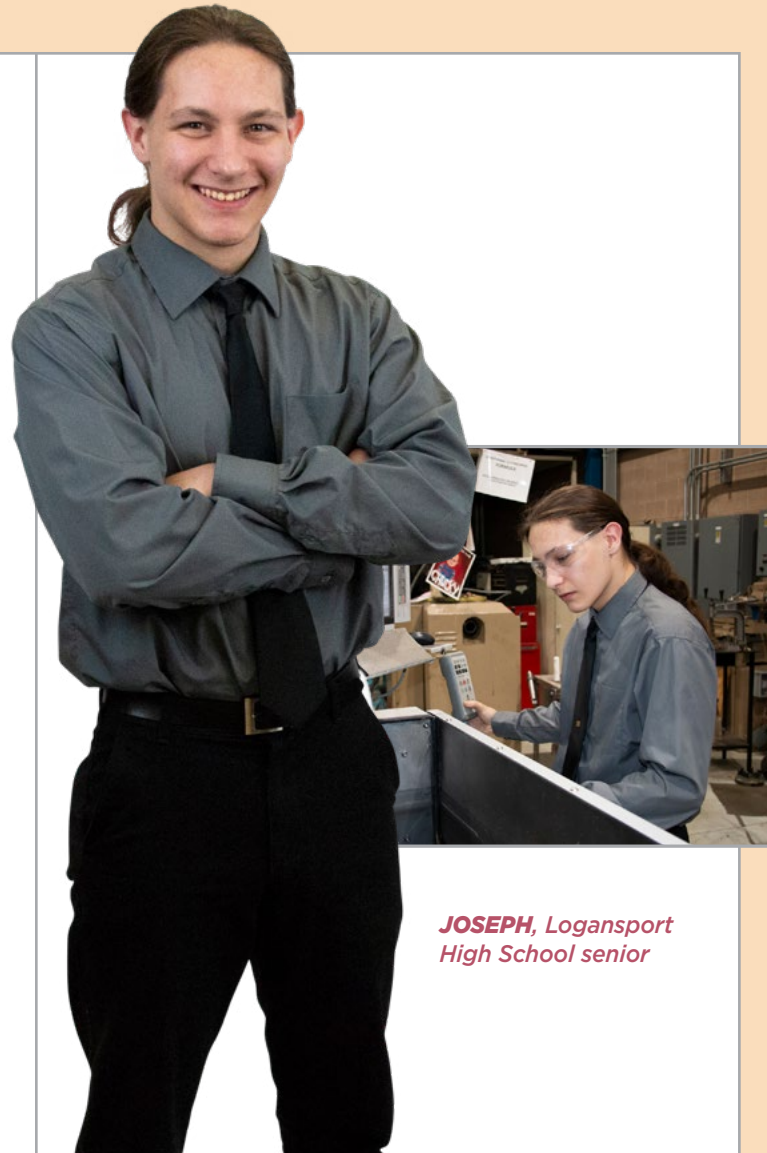
There are a lot of postsecondary options to consider. First, think about what your goals are, and weigh your options to find a college or career path that best fits your needs. For example, a two-year college offers different degree programs than a four-year university. Remember, college is more than just a degree, it is a path to your future career!

### Four-Year College

**JULIANA** is a freshman at Logansport High School. She is interested in biomedical engineering. Most engineers earn a bachelor's degree at a four-year college like Indiana State University. Many four-year colleges offer advanced degree programs like master's degrees or doctoral degrees, too. Juliana is a 21st Century Scholar, and she knows it's important to get good grades and take challenging courses to prepare for college! If you're interested in a four-year college, you should:

- Graduate with at least a Core 40 diploma, but preferably an honors diploma.
- Participate in extracurricular or service activities.
- Push yourself to earn good grades by striving for at least a 3.0 GPA (out of 4.0).
- Take challenging classes like AP or dual-credit.
- Take the SAT or ACT. For more information on these tests, visit [CollegeBoard.org](https://collegeboard.org) (SAT) or [ACT.org](https://act.org) (ACT).

***JULIANA**, Logansport High School freshman*



***JOSEPH**, Logansport High School senior*

### Two-Year College

**JOSEPH** is a senior at Logansport High School, and he is interested in a career in tool and die. This career requires a one-year certificate that is usually offered at two-year colleges like Ivy Tech Community College or Vincennes University. These colleges also offer associate degree programs that take two years to complete. Joseph has gained hands-on experience in machine tool technology at his school's career center. He is working hard to earn his Core 40 diploma. If you are interested in a two-year college, you should:

- Push yourself to graduate with a Core 40 diploma. Consider getting a technical honors diploma, too.
- Take placement tests to determine where you should start (many two-year colleges do not require the SAT or ACT but will accept them in place of different placement tests).
- Take AP or dual-credit courses to earn college credit in advance and save money. Learn more about how your credits will transfer at [TransferIN.net](https://transferin.net).

### Military

The military allows you to serve your country and advance your education and skills. Enlisting in the military can open up a vast range of career options—from the medical field to IT, and everything in between. Some military programs, like the National Guard, allow you to enroll in a traditional college while you serve your country. **Bonus:** If you enlist, the military will often pay for your college during or after service. If you're interested in enlisting, you should:

- Stay in shape so you can pass physical fitness tests.
- Stay out of trouble so you have a clean background check.
- Study hard for the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery).
- Avoid tattoos below the elbow.
- Talk to a local recruiter for more information.
- Remember, if you plan to enroll in college during or after service, college requirements apply too.



### Apprenticeship

An apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job training and classroom learning in a field like welding, carpentry or pipefitting. Apprenticeships are a great starting point for a career in the trades. Plus, you get paid while you work and learn!

Apprenticeship programs are usually two to five years long. At the end of the program, apprentices receive an industry-recognized credential like a journeyman certification. At Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. Indiana/Kentucky Chapter (ABC), most apprentices are employed by ABC member companies, and these employers usually cover the cost of the apprenticeship.

If you're interested in an apprenticeship, you should:

- Take CTE classes that focus on the field you're interested in.
- Take the WorkKeys placement test if your apprenticeship program requires it.
- Make sure you understand geometry and fractions, and have an interest in science and logic. These are important components of many apprenticeship programs.
- Enjoy working with your hands.
- Reach out to an apprenticeship program like ABC Indiana/Kentucky to learn more.



# COLLEGE VISIT WORKSHEET

Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college is like. You can take a tour of the campus, talk to advisors and current students, and get a feel for the environment overall. Ask a professor if you can sit in on a class, or find a group of students to talk to about their experiences.

Check out the questions below and fill in the answers next time you go on a college visit!

**Name of College:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of College:** Public Private Other  
**Number of Years:** Two Four Other

**Location of the College:** Small Town Urban/City Suburban Rural Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACADEMICS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| What majors and courses are available that you are interested in? |  |
| What is the average class size?                                   |  |
| What academic supports are available?                             |  |

## CAMPUS LIFE

|  |  |
|--|--|
| What is the size of the college?               |  |
| What extracurricular activities are available? |  |
| Do most students live on campus or commute?    |  |
| What housing options are available?            |  |
| Who makes up the student population?           |  |
| What is the campus atmosphere?                 |  |

## COST

|   |  |
|---|--|
| What is the cost of attendance?         |  |
| Do most students receive financial aid? |  |

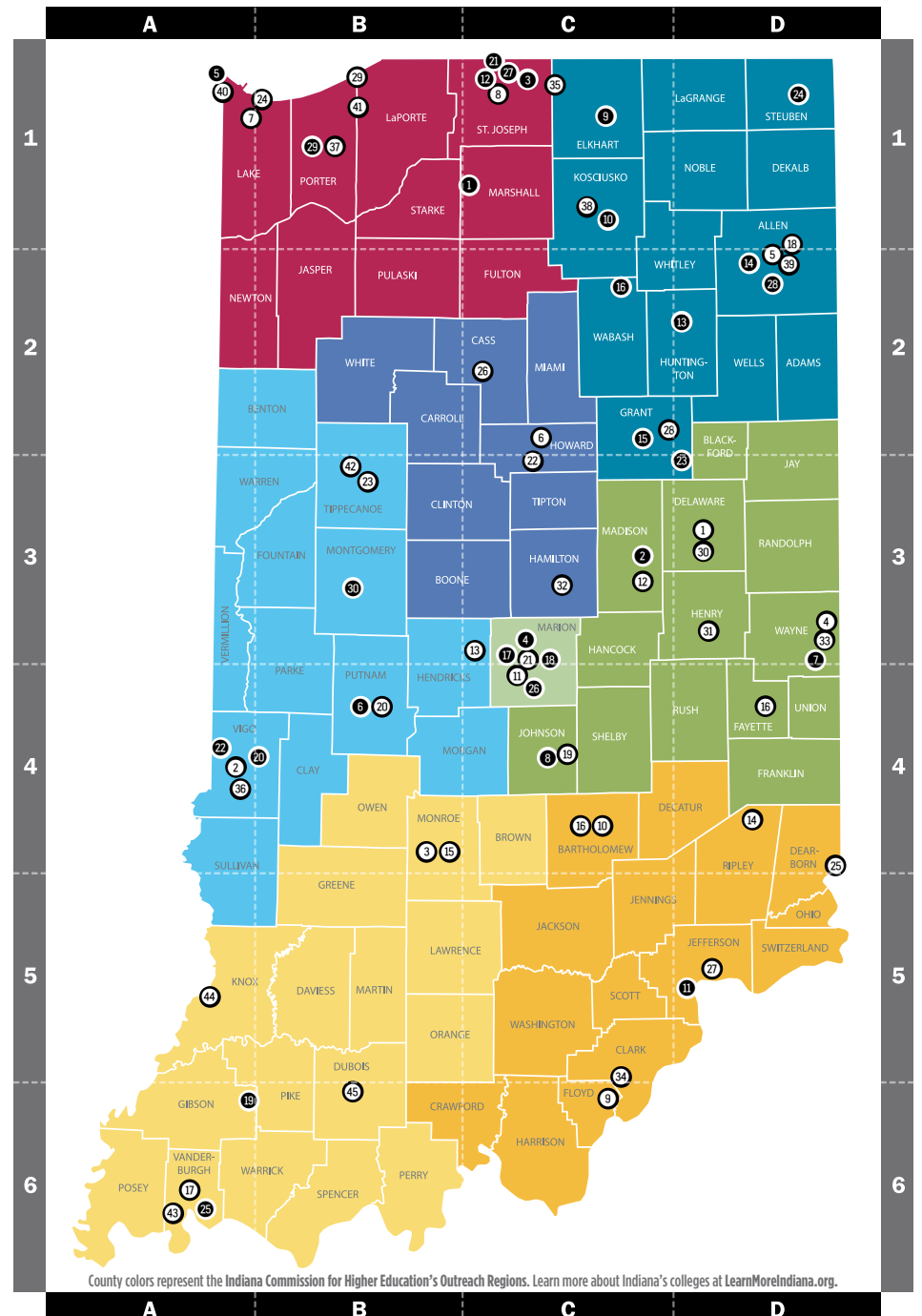
# INDIANA COLLEGES

## PUBLIC INDIANA COLLEGES

- 1 Ball State University.....D3
- 2 Indiana State University.....A4
- 3 Indiana University-Bloomington.....B4
- 4 Indiana University-East.....D3
- 5 Indiana University-Fort Wayne.....D2
- 6 Indiana University-Kokomo.....C2
- 7 Indiana University-Northwest.....A1
- 8 Indiana University-South Bend.....C1
- 9 Indiana University-Southeast.....C6
- 10 IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus).....C4
- 11 IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis).....C4
- 12 Ivy Tech Community College-Anderson.....C3
- 13 Ivy Tech Community College-Avon.....C3
- 14 Ivy Tech Community College-Batesville.....D4
- 15 Ivy Tech Community College-Bloomington.....B4
- 16 Ivy Tech Community College-Columbus.....C4
- 17 Ivy Tech Community College-Evansville.....A6
- 18 Ivy Tech Community College-Fort Wayne.....D1
- 19 Ivy Tech Community College-Franklin.....C4
- 20 Ivy Tech Community College-Greencastle.....B4
- 21 Ivy Tech Community College-Indianapolis.....C3
- 22 Ivy Tech Community College-Kokomo.....C3
- 23 Ivy Tech Community College-Lafayette.....B3
- 24 Ivy Tech Community College-Lake County.....B1
- 25 Ivy Tech Community College-Lawrenceburg.....D4
- 26 Ivy Tech Community College-Logansport.....C2
- 27 Ivy Tech Community College-Madison.....D5
- 28 Ivy Tech Community College-Marion.....C2
- 29 Ivy Tech Community College-Michigan City.....B1
- 30 Ivy Tech Community College-Muncie.....D3
- 31 Ivy Tech Community College-New Castle.....D3
- 32 Ivy Tech Community College-Noblesville.....C3
- 33 Ivy Tech Community College-Richmond.....D3
- 34 Ivy Tech Community College-Sellersburg.....C5
- 35 Ivy Tech Community College-South Bend/Elkhart.....C1
- 36 Ivy Tech Community College-Terre Haute.....A4
- 37 Ivy Tech Community College-Valparaiso.....B1
- 38 Ivy Tech Community College-Warsaw.....C1
- 39 Purdue University-Fort Wayne.....D2
- 40 Purdue University Northwest-Hammond Campus.....A1
- 41 Purdue University Northwest-Westfield Campus.....B1
- 42 Purdue University-West Lafayette.....B3
- 43 University of Southern Indiana.....A6
- 44 Vincennes University.....A5
- 45 Vincennes University-Jasper Campus.....B6

## PRIVATE INDIANA COLLEGES

- 1 Ancilla College.....C1
- 2 Anderson University.....C3
- 3 Bethel College.....C1
- 4 Butler University.....C3
- 5 Calumet College of Saint Joseph.....A1
- 6 DePaul University.....B4
- 7 Earlham College.....D3
- 8 Franklin College.....C4
- 9 Gosham College.....C1
- 10 Grace College.....C1
- 11 Hanover College.....D5
- 12 Holy Cross College.....C1
- 13 Huntington University.....D2
- 14 Indiana Tech.....D2
- 15 Indiana Wesleyan University.....C2
- 16 Manchester University.....C2
- 17 Marian University.....C3
- 18 Martin University.....C3
- 19 Oakland City University.....A6
- 20 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.....B4
- 21 Saint Mary's College.....C1
- 22 Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.....A4
- 23 Taylor University.....D3
- 24 Trine University.....D1
- 25 University of Evansville.....A6
- 26 University of Indianapolis.....C4
- 27 University of Notre Dame.....C1
- 28 University of Saint Francis.....D2
- 29 Valparaiso University.....B1
- 30 Wabash College.....B3



- 15 Indiana Wesleyan University.....C2
- 16 Manchester University.....C2
- 17 Marian University.....C3
- 18 Martin University.....C3
- 19 Oakland City University.....A6
- 20 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.....B4
- 21 Saint Mary's College.....C1
- 22 Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.....A4
- 23 Taylor University.....D3
- 24 Trine University.....D1
- 25 University of Evansville.....A6
- 26 University of Indianapolis.....C4
- 27 University of Notre Dame.....C1
- 28 University of Saint Francis.....D2
- 29 Valparaiso University.....B1
- 30 Wabash College.....B3

**ONLINE INDIANA COLLEGES**

- Purdue University Global.....online at purdueglobal.edu
- WGU Indiana.....online at indiana.wgu.edu

## PREPARING FOR YOUR FUTURE

It's never too early to start preparing for your college applications! Most colleges require a list of forms and materials when you apply. Check out the list below to see some of the things you may need.

**High School Transcript:** It's important to start focusing on getting good grades early in high school. Colleges will look at all of your progress in high school, not just your senior year! Start taking challenging courses and getting involved as soon as possible! If you struggle in a few classes, that's ok. Be sure to try your hardest.

**Test Scores:** Most four-year colleges require you to report either your SAT or ACT score. Make sure you start studying early for these exams! It is common to take these exams in your junior year of high school. If you plan to enroll in a two-year college or an apprenticeship program, check to see if they require a placement test.

**Recommendation Letters:** A letter of recommendation is an important part of many college applications. A lot of four-year colleges require you to get a letter from either a teacher or a school counselor. This helps colleges determine a student's academic performance and potential.

**Essays:** Oftentimes you will have to write about your academic and career goals when applying to college. This is your chance to use your voice to express your skills and interests. The college essay is the best way to personalize your application and speaks to who you are beyond your grades and scores.

### **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):**

When you're a senior in high school and a college student, you will need to file your FAFSA. The FAFSA will tell you and your college your eligibility for financial aid. You will read more about what may be available for you in the next few pages of this magazine!



***BLAINE** is a freshman at Lincoln High School, and he is interested in being a band teacher. To prepare for college, he plans to earn a Core 40 diploma with Academic Honors. He's also honing his music skills in school by participating in marching band. Participating in extracurricular activities like band, choir and sports is a great way to show colleges what you're passionate about!*

## COST

## PAYING FOR COLLEGE BEGINS TODAY!

Making smart choices and working hard in high school can pay off in real money. **Ali**, a junior at George Washington High school who is interested in audio engineering, can tell you all about it.

In middle school, Ali signed up for Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program. Now that he's nearing the end of high school, he knows the steps he's taken will result in up to 100% of his tuition being covered for up to four years. Ali knows it's important to complete the Scholar Success Program requirements in order to get experience and learn how to pay for college.

If you're a 21st Century Scholar, be sure to complete your Scholar Success Program activities! Visit [ScholarTrack.IN.gov](http://ScholarTrack.IN.gov), or check out page 17 to learn more.

Whether you're a Scholar or not, financial aid is available! You'll find out what kind of aid is available to you when you file your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) your senior year of high school. Create a GPA goal for yourself and commit to an extracurricular or service activity to boost your chances of earning a scholarship.

### Words to Know

**Grants:** Grants are typically awarded to students with financial need, and they don't have to be repaid. They often come from the State of Indiana, the federal government or the college you'll attend.

**Scholarships:** Scholarships don't have to be repaid either. Usually you must seek out scholarships and apply long before you're in college—and working hard for scholarships starts now! Check out [LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost) and talk to your school counselor about where to look for scholarships.

**Work-Study:** Work-Study (like EARN Indiana) is where the state or federal government pays you money for working on campus or completing an internship. Find out more about EARN Indiana at [IndianaIntern.net](http://IndianaIntern.net).

**Loans:** Loans have to be paid back, plus interest. You should take out as few loans as possible to avoid taking on too much debt. If you do need to take out loans (and taking some out is okay!) use up all of your federal loan eligibility before seeking loans from private companies or banks. Federal loans have lower interest rates and more repayment options.



*Ali, junior at George Washington High School*



## CASH FOR COLLEGE

Learn more about the costs of college during Cash for College, every December through March! Visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost) to learn more.



## FINANCIAL AID FROM INDIANA

Indiana has financial aid for all types of students. To qualify, you must file the FAFSA by April 15 of your senior year (and each year you're in college too!). Check out the options below, and visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org/statefinancialaid](https://www.learnmoreindiana.org/statefinancialaid) for detailed requirements.

| WHAT IS IT?  | WHO QUALIFIES?   | HOW MUCH?  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Need-Based Financial Aid</b>                              |  |  |
| Frank O'Bannon Grant   | Full-time college students with financial need. You may receive more aid if you earn an honors diploma in high school.                   | \$650 to \$9,000 depending on your college and your financial need. Additional performance incentives available from \$800 to \$1,300. |
| EARN Indiana   | Any student who demonstrates need.   | Varies, but all internships are paid at least federal minimum wage.  |
| <b>Financial Aid for Military and Public Safety Officers</b> |  |  |
| Child of Veterans and Public Safety Officers (CVO)           | Students whose parent is a deceased or disabled military veteran, deceased public safety officer, or permanently disabled state trooper. | Up to 100% tuition costs at public Indiana colleges.   |
| Indiana National Guard Supplement Grant                      | Students who are active members of the Indiana Air or Army National Guard.   | Up to 100% of tuition costs at public Indiana colleges.  |
| <b>Financial Aid for Future Teachers</b>                     |  |  |
| Earline S. Rogers Student Teaching Stipend for Minorities    | Black or Hispanic students who will participate in student teaching during the upcoming school year.                                     | The amount varies based on student need and available funds.   |
| Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship                | 200 high-achieving high school or college students who agree to teach in Indiana for five years after graduating college.                | Up to \$7,500 for up to 4 years.   |
| Student Teaching Stipend for High-Needs Fields               | Students who plan to teach in a high-needs field where there is a shortage of candidates.  | The amount varies based on student need and available funds.   |
| William A. Crawford Minority Teacher Scholarship             | Black or Hispanic students majoring in education who plan to teach in Indiana for at least three years after college.                    | The amount varies based on student need and available funds.   |
| <b>Additional Financial Aid</b>                              |  |  |
| Mitch Daniels Early Graduation Scholarship                   | Students who graduate from a public high school at least one year early and start college within five months.                            | A one-time award of up to \$4,000.   |
| Workforce Ready Grant  | High school graduates pursuing a high-demand qualifying workforce certificate program.   | The tuition and mandatory fees of a high-value certificate at Ivy Tech Community College or Vincennes University.                      |

## SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS TIPS

College might seem a long way off, but there's plenty you can do right now to set yourself up for scholarship success.

**Earn good grades.** Even if you started off on the wrong foot, you can increase your GPA by graduation and show scholarship and admissions committees you're a hard worker.

**Work hard.** Even if you struggle in a certain subject, your hard work and perseverance can pay off in college dollars.

**Get involved and stay involved.** Join a club or sport and seek leadership opportunities. Remember, it's better to stay involved in one to two activities for a long time than to jump around to several activities.

**Help your community.** By volunteering you'll grow personally and professionally—and your community will benefit!

**Practice your writing skills.** Writing is a good skill to have! Many college and scholarship applications require an essay, so seize the opportunity now to practice and improve your writing.



*KAYLA is a senior at Logansport High School. She is saving money for college not only by earning dual-credit in high school, but also by writing essays for scholarship applications!*

## Scholar Success Program

Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program helps income-eligible students earn up to four years of tuition at an eligible Indiana college. Scholars fulfill a pledge of **good citizenship** and participate in the **Scholar Success Program** (see back cover) that helps them stay on track for college and career success. Scholars must also earn at least a **Core 40 diploma** and achieve a **cumulative GPA of at least 2.5** (on a 4.0 scale). Visit [Scholars.IN.gov](https://www.scholars.in.gov) to learn more, and start tracking your activity completion today at [ScholarTrack.IN.gov](https://www.scholartrack.in.gov).

Even if you're not a Scholar, completing the 12 activities in the Scholar Success Program will help you prepare for college and career success!



**BROOKLYN**, a senior at the University of Southern Indiana, can tell you all about it. She's a **21st Century Scholar**, and the State of Indiana is helping her pay for college. She's on her way to earning a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in gender studies. After she graduates, she plans to earn her master's degree and become an applied behavior analysis therapist and work with children who are diagnosed with autism. Her advice for you? Go to college! You don't know what doors will open until you're pursuing your dreams.

## MY COLLEGE BUDGET

The cost of college is more than just tuition. You should also think about housing and food, textbooks and school supplies, and anything else you may need. Research the cost of a few colleges you're interested in and use the budget sheet below to start thinking about college expenses.

**Tip:** To find this information, try visiting a college's cost of attendance page (usually under the financial aid section), or use Google to search for your school name and "cost of attendance." Some information—like entertainment or books—you might have to search for on other kinds of websites.

|                       | SCHOOL #1 | SCHOOL #2 | SCHOOL #3 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>EDUCATION</b>      |           |           |           |
| Tuition and Fees      |           |           |           |
| Books                 |           |           |           |
| School Supplies       |           |           |           |
| <b>HOUSING</b>        |           |           |           |
| Room and Board        |           |           |           |
| Electricity           |           |           |           |
| Gas                   |           |           |           |
| Water                 |           |           |           |
| Phone                 |           |           |           |
| Internet              |           |           |           |
| <b>TRANSPORTATION</b> |           |           |           |
| Car Payments          |           |           |           |
| Gas                   |           |           |           |
| Campus Parking Fee    |           |           |           |
| Bus Pass              |           |           |           |
| <b>FOOD</b>           |           |           |           |
| Campus Meal Plan      |           |           |           |
| Groceries             |           |           |           |
| Dining Out            |           |           |           |
| <b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>  |           |           |           |
| Movies                |           |           |           |
| Sport Events          |           |           |           |
| Special Events        |           |           |           |
| <b>OTHER</b>          |           |           |           |
| Other                 |           |           |           |
| Other                 |           |           |           |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> |           |           |           |

### Tips to Save

- Buy used textbooks or rent your books whenever possible.
- Walk or ride your bike. It's great exercise and saves you the hassle of paying for a car and a parking permit!
- Skip pricey bottles of water or frequent trips to the coffee shop. If you have a meal plan, use it to save money on outside food purchases.
- Think about how to save money now. When you budget early, you are more likely to stick to it. Make a plan on how you will save before you arrive at college.

## PARENT'S PAGE

### College and Career Success Starts Now

It's never too early—or too late—to talk to your child about his or her career aspirations and college options. Nearly two-thirds of all new jobs will require some form of education and training after high school. Whether your child is planning for a certificate program or a bachelor's degree, it's important to have a plan. Check out the tips below, and visit [LearnMoreIndiana.org](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org) for more information and ideas.

**Career:** Brainstorm together subjects your child excels at, his or her interests and what careers he or she might like. Now is a great time to start thinking about part-time jobs, internships and job shadowing opportunities to help your child explore the world of work.

**College:** Talk to your child about his or her education options—including college, apprenticeships and the military. Colleges look at GPAs—even freshmen year GPAs—so encourage your child to study hard and complete assignments on time.

**Cost:** College is a worthwhile investment. Learn More about opening a 529 plan to save money for your child's education below, and visit [IndianaCollegeCosts.org](http://IndianaCollegeCosts.org) to estimate the financial aid your child is likely to receive. If your child is a 21st Century Scholar, ensure he or she is completing the Scholar Success Program and logging completion at [ScholarTrack.IN.gov](http://ScholarTrack.IN.gov).

### Opportunities for Adults

Thinking about going back to college yourself? There's never been a better time to skill up in Indiana with financial aid options designed specifically for working-age adults. The Workforce Ready Grant and the Adult Student Grant provide financial assistance

to help you start—or finish—a certificate or degree. Visit [NextLevelJobs.org](http://NextLevelJobs.org) to get started today. There's never been a better time to start—or finish—your higher education!

## COLLEGE SAVING IS AS EASY AS 529!

The **Indiana CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan** is an easy way to invest in your child's education tax-free. The 529 plan offers these great features:

**Easy setup.** It only takes a \$10 deposit to get started. And anyone—friends, grandparents or relatives—can contribute.

**Tax benefits.** Withdrawals for education—tuition, books and other college expenses—are tax-free. Plus, any Indiana resident who contributes to your child's account can qualify for a state tax credit of up to \$1,000 each year.

**Automatic deposits.** If you want to make a regular commitment to your child's future, you can set up an automatic deposit from your paycheck. Saving couldn't be easier!

## CollegeChoice 529<sup>★</sup> DIRECT SAVINGS PLAN

**Shop 'n save.** Sign up for **Upromise** at [Upromise.com](http://Upromise.com) and a portion of your family's everyday spending on household items and restaurants will be deposited in your savings plan.

**Simple transfers.** What if you save more than your child needs? The account's beneficiary is easily changed to a sibling or other relative. Visit [CollegeChoiceDirect.com](http://CollegeChoiceDirect.com) to learn more.

Learn more tips about saving and paying for college at [LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/cost).

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# THE SCHOLAR SUCCESS PROGRAM

**REQUIRED FOR 21ST CENTURY SCHOLARS,  
RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS.**



| GRADE | REQUIRED ACTIVITIES                   |   |                                      |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 09    | Create a Graduation Plan <sup>1</sup> | Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity | Watch "Paying for College 101"       |
| 10    | Take a Career Interests Assessment    | Get Workplace Experience <sup>2</sup>                 | Estimate the Costs of College        |
| 11    | Visit a College Campus                | Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT/SAT)                | Search for Scholarships <sup>3</sup> |
| 12    | Submit Your College Application       | Watch "College Success 101"                           | File Your FAFSA                      |

1. Plan should be updated annually to keep students on track for high school graduation and college admission.  
 2. Includes job shadowing, internship, part-time employment, interviewing a professional or related experience linked to a student's career aspirations.  
 3. Includes any additional scholarship opportunities beyond the 21st Century Scholarship.

Stay on track at  
**ScholarTrack.IN.gov**

