



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State kicks off 'Cash for College' campaign

Hoosier students— from kindergarteners through adults —can learn how to pay for education beyond high school this winter as part of Learn More Indiana's annual "Cash for College" campaign. The effort kicks off statewide this month and continues through Indiana's March 10 deadline for filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the form that qualifies students to receive financial aid from colleges, the State of Indiana, the federal government and other sources.

"Cash for College is about helping Hoosiers take practical steps that prepare them to pay for college and earn a degree with minimal debt," said Teresa Lubbers, Commissioner for Higher Education. "From an early age, we help students build a foundation of saving and budgeting, teach them about the actual cost of college, and provide step-by-step assistance on filing the FAFSA and navigating the financial aid process."

Free Cash for College Resources

Learn More Indiana's dedicated Cash for College website at CashforCollegeIndiana.org offers a variety of helpful tips and free resources for K-12 students, current college students and returning adult students, including the Indiana College Costs Estimator. Available online or as a free mobile app, the Estimator offers side-by-side cost comparisons that show how much students should expect to pay out-of-pocket at each Indiana college once various sources of financial aid are taken into account.

Contests and Upcoming Events

Learn More Indiana is sponsoring \$100 college savings plan contests for students and \$1,000 grant opportunities for schools during Cash for College. See deadlines and application details at CashforCollegeIndiana.org or LearnMoreIndiana.org, and check out the online events calendar to learn about these and other upcoming events:

- Scholarship Webinar: Jan. 25 at 10 a.m. (EST) Learn More Indiana will host a webinar at 10 a.m. (EST) on January 25 to help students scout out scholarship opportunities and write outstanding scholarship application essays. Watch the event live on Jan. 25 or view an archived video afterwards.
- FAFSA Friday: Feb. 15 at noon and 6 p.m. (EST) State financial aid experts will walk students and families through the process for filing the FAFSA accurately and on time during Learn More Indiana's online FAFSA Friday event. Participate in the live streaming event at noon or 6 p.m. on Feb. 15 or view an archived version.
- College Goal Sunday: Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. (local time) Get face-to-face assistance from financial aid experts on completing the FAFSA at one of 41 locations across Indiana on Feb. 24.

Learn More

Led by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, Learn More Indiana is a partnership of state and local organizations working to help students of all ages succeed in school, complete college and connect to careers. In print, in person, online and on the phone, Learn More Indiana helps Hoosiers plan, prepare and pay for education and training beyond high school. Learn more at <u>LearnMoreIndiana.org</u>.