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## **Application Open for Grant to Promote College Readiness**

*Indiana colleges and universities are encouraged to apply by July 6*

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](#), in partnership with [Indiana Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate \(GEAR UP\)](#) is accepting grant applications through Wednesday, July 6 for the 2022-23 Indiana GEAR UP Bridge to College Day. Bridge to College Days expose high school juniors and seniors to postsecondary opportunities and assist them in completing the necessary steps for applications, financial aid and college success.

The [Indiana GEAR UP Bridge to College Day](#) is designed to support collaborative efforts focused on the following college and career readiness priorities:

- 21st Century Scholar Success Program (SSP) completion and maintaining academic eligibility
- Parent and family engagement programming
- Financial aid and literacy information
- Understanding Indiana’s colleges and universities (campus tours, admissions process, departments/services)
- Career exploration and preparation activities

“Early exposure to college and career opportunities can make a tremendous impact on a high school student’s decision regarding plans after graduation,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. “Bridge to College Day brings together secondary and postsecondary institutions in collaboration to offer programming with the overall goal of ensuring high school students have the knowledge, support and tools they need to apply and access a post-graduation pathway that works for them.”

Applicants are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 for the program, event or initiative(s) that are completed. Preference will be given to applications that focus on developing sustainable support for students and families at one or more of the 10 Indiana GEAR UP partner schools.

### **Indiana GEAR UP Partner Schools**

- Arsenal Technical High School (Indianapolis)
- Charlestown High School
- Crawford County High School (Marengo)
- Jefferson High School (Lafayette)
- Jeffersonville High School
- Kokomo High School
- Maconaquah High School (Bunker Hill)
- Muncie Central High School
- Purdue Polytechnic High School (Englewood Campus)
- West Side Leadership Academy (Gary)

Funding for the grants is made possible through Indiana GEAR UP. Indiana GEAR UP is led by a collaborative team of staff from Purdue University and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Indiana GEAR UP will follow and provide support to a targeted cohort of students over the course of seven years (2016-23). One of the primary goals of Indiana GEAR UP is to increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

View the full grant application and find details to apply [here](#).

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**About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education**

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates and defines Indiana's postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. The Commission also administers Indiana's financial aid programs, including the [21st Century Scholars](#) early college promise scholarship, which celebrated 30 years in 2020. Learn more about the Commission's [Reaching Higher in a State of Change](#) strategic plan at [www.in.gov/che](http://www.in.gov/che).