



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*  
HIGHER EDUCATION

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Stephanie Wilson  
260-705-8007  
swilson@che.in.gov

## Indiana Releases Updated Report on College Return on Investment

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Commission for Higher Education today released an updated [Return on Investment report with](#) a new [online return-on-investment \(ROI\) estimator](#) to help students and their families make informed decisions about investing in education beyond high school.

“Indiana’s *Return on Investment* reports give Hoosiers information about a critical aspect of college value— financial cost and payoff,” Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers said. “While the value of education beyond high school has never been greater, Indiana’s *Return on Investment* report makes it clear that careful planning about what and where to study and how much money to borrow greatly affects short- and long-term return on investment.”

### Statewide Findings

- **Higher education pays, and completion matters.** While those with some college credit earn a few thousand more on average than their peers without postsecondary credits, Hoosiers with associate degrees or higher earn more than twice as much on average than those who have only earned high school diplomas.
- **The financial benefit of higher education increases over time and by degree level.** Indiana college graduates earn about \$2 for every dollar spent on their degrees five years after graduating. The long-term payoff is even greater at each higher education level.
- **What you study matters more than where you study.** It pays to look at job market demand when choosing a college major. Where one attends college may affect salary by a few thousand dollars, but what one studies can affect salary by tens of thousands of dollars each year.

The 2016 *Return on Investment* report provides updated data on employment, salary, debt and cost. Beyond the new online [ROI estimator](#), this year’s report also incorporates information on short-term certificates earned in less than one year as well as more detailed information about specific majors.

“USA Funds commends Indiana’s ongoing commitment to providing valuable information on how different degree programs align with the state’s labor market and students’ career aspirations,” said Carol D’Amico, USA Funds Executive Vice President, National Engagement and Philanthropy. “This updated *Return on Investment* report provides the basis for the Commission’s groundbreaking effort to provide a comprehensive view of college value that includes both quantitative and qualitative measures.”

Later this year, with USA Funds support, the Commission will expand its report series on the costs and benefits of higher education with the *Indiana College Value Index*. This index will be the nation’s first statewide measure of college value that brings together the quantitative data in Indiana’s *Return on Investment*, *College Completion*, and *College and Career Readiness* reports and the qualitative data on graduates’ long-term satisfaction gathered through the first Gallup-Indiana Graduate Satisfaction Survey.

(Continued)

**A New View of College ROI**

Visit [www.LearnMoreIndiana.org/ROI](http://www.LearnMoreIndiana.org/ROI) to explore the Commission’s new online ROI estimator. This new tool was developed at no cost to Indiana taxpayers using free Tableau Public data software. The ROI estimator lets viewers see college costs and debt, find the degree programs with the greatest employment prospects and earning potential in the state, and compare results by campus, degree, and years after graduation.



**Student Costs and Debt**

Find the typical cost of college and level of student debt for each Indiana public college.

hover and click icon to sort →	Annual cost of college BEFORE financial aid	Annual cost of college AFTER financial aid	Graduates' average debt	% of graduates with debt
Ball State	\$21,490	\$13,049	\$26,529	73%
Indiana State University	\$20,226	\$11,151	\$25,948	76%
IPFW	\$24,790	\$12,335	\$30,301	78%
IU Bloomington	\$23,116	\$11,361	\$26,261	59%
IU East	\$19,924	\$7,948	\$30,077	86%
IU Kokomo	\$19,721	\$9,834	\$25,704	82%
IU Northwest	\$24,022	\$11,866	\$32,780	73%
IU South Bend	\$21,568	\$10,997	\$28,420	78%
IU Southeast	\$19,516	\$10,184	\$22,661	71%
IUPUI	\$23,941	\$12,713	\$30,811	79%
Ivy Tech	\$16,435	\$8,532	\$18,614	58%
Purdue Calumet	\$20,782	\$10,644	\$26,151	61%
Purdue North Central	\$21,072	\$7,923	\$27,764	77%
Purdue West Lafayette	\$23,468	\$13,541	\$25,683	61%
USI	\$18,977	\$13,153	\$24,561	66%
Vincennes University	\$17,228	\$9,805	\$16,526	63%

Featuring both state-level and college-specific profiles, the ROI Estimator includes the following:

- Typical cost and student debt level for all Indiana public colleges.
- Most common areas of employment in Indiana for college graduates based on their program of study.
- Median salaries for college graduates employed in Indiana based on their program of study one, five and 10 years after graduation.

Data included in the latest *Return on Investment* report come from four main sources: the Indiana Commission for Higher Education Data Submission System (CHEDSS), the federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), the Indiana Workforce Intelligence System (IWIS), and 2014 Indiana census figures.

Read all of the Commission’s reports at [www.in.gov/che](http://www.in.gov/che) and explore resources available to help students of all ages plan, prepare and pay for college at [www.LearnMoreIndiana.org](http://www.LearnMoreIndiana.org).