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Indiana's Pre-Admissions: Your Path to College Sees Second-Year Increases

More Hoosier students will receive letters informing them of their postsecondary education options

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The <u>Indiana Commission for Higher Education</u> (Commission), in partnership with the state's higher education institutions, sent out pre-admissions letters to more than 67,000 Indiana high school seniors this month, informing them of their options for postsecondary education in Indiana.

The *Indiana Pre-Admissions: Your Path to College* initiative launched last year with letters sent to over 56,000 Indiana high school seniors in the 2024 graduating cohort. Students from participating high schools received a letter stating that they will be pre-admitted to participating in-state public and private institutions based on their cumulative GPA and/or SAT scores, pending an official application to the institution and completing any additional requirements. This allows students to view post-graduation options prior to filling out applications.

This year, 39 Indiana public and private colleges and universities are participating in the initiative, with postsecondary credential options ranging from short-term and one-year certificates to associate and bachelor's degrees. For the 2024-2025 school year, 390 Indiana high schools are participating in *Indiana Pre-Admissions*, up from 327 in 2023-2024.

Additionally, the average number of pre-admitted campuses for students is 24, the same average as last academic year. About 24 percent of students who received pre-admissions letters were pre-admitted to all 39 campuses.

To receive their official admission notification, students must apply to the institutions via the Common App or the institutions' websites. Students also need to maintain academic performance, maintain positive disciplinary standing, and meet any additional admissions requirements from the institutions. Students will be directed to the <u>Indiana Pre-Admissions</u> web page to explore all options for postsecondary education in Indiana.

"This program's continued growth greatly benefits both Indiana students and participating institutions," Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery said. "Compared to last year, the Commission sent out pre-admissions letters to more than an additional 10,000 students. As we continue to expand Indiana Pre-Admissions, more students will have increased options about which they may have not been aware."

The initiative was created to address Indiana's declining college-going rate, which currently sits at 53 percent. The *Indiana Pre-Admissions* initiative is informed by other statewide direct and pre-admissions initiatives implemented in Idaho, Minnesota, and those being developed in other states.

The *Indiana Pre-Admissions* web page serves as Indiana's centralized site to access admissions information for Indiana institutions, including information about application deadlines, applications fees, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) deadlines, and FAFSA school codes. Furthermore, the web page now refers students a new centralized military-focused web page which outlines how to join each branch of the military and explore Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs at Indiana institutions, as well as One Stop to Start, Indiana's workforce hub. These web pages will allow high school seniors to plan for enrollment, employment, and enlistment after graduation.

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.