INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

Policy on Purdue University Fort Wayne

March 2024

Preamble

Purdue University Fort Wayne serves the second largest city in the state with a significant presence of business and industry. This campus is charged to carry out all of higher education's traditional values in teaching, research, and professional service. Purdue University Fort Wayne is Indiana's Flagship Comprehensive Campus for the Fort Wayne Metropolitan Region serving a distinctive role to provide leadership to the region by using its resources to improve the region's quality of life. It does so in alignment with the Commission's Reaching Higher strategies advancing student access, affordability, and quality education while increasing college completion rates and productivity. As such, it has been designated a Metropolitan University.

The mission of Purdue University Fort Wayne should reflect the following defining characteristics:

1) **Profile:** Purdue University Fort Wayne serves a diverse student body including both recent high school graduates and adults, many of whom are first generation students, low income students, or other students balancing their education with work and family obligations. Purdue University Fort Wayne should offer courses through a variety of flexible delivery models and scheduling options which are designed to accommodate the unique needs of their students. The goal should be to enable as many students as possible, including those with work and family obligations, to complete a full-time course load and graduate on-time. Effective partnerships between high schools and Purdue University Fort Wayne can improve both completion and on- time graduation by increasing the number of students who enter college with credits earned in high school through dual credit, concurrent enrollment or Advanced Placement.

2) **Educational Responsibility:** The primary educational responsibility of Purdue University Fort Wayne is to offer baccalaureate degree programs as well as master's programs that meet state and regional needs. Under appropriate circumstances aligned to clearly demonstrated regional workforce demand, a Regional Campus may be approved to offer a professional practice doctoral program either (a) collaboratively with a doctoral-intensive research campus or (b) independently for programs in Health, Technology, or additional disciplines that prepare graduates to meet accreditation, licensure, or certification requirements for employment. Associate degree programs may be offered on an exceptional basis if a clear workforce need exists, and it has been determined that the program cannot be offered at community colleges. Purdue University Fort Wayne facilitates seamless transfer to and from other institutions through the Core Transfer Library, the Indiana College Core, and the Transfer Single Articulation Pathways.

3) **Governance:** In accordance with the Realignment Agreement, and except as described in

Article II, Section F of the Program Transfer Agreement specifying the management of IU Medical School, Purdue shall be the University with the full power, authority and responsibility to manage and operate the Fort Wayne Campus and do all things necessary and proper for such purpose.

4) **Admissions Policy:** Qualifying documents are required (high school record, rank, GPA, etc.) but a large majority of students are admitted. Selective admissions criteria may be used for certain academic programs. Beginning in 2011, recent high school graduates were required to have a Core 40 high school diploma for admission to Purdue University Fort Wayne.

5) **Developmental/Remedial Education:** Purdue University Fort Wayne is encouraged to address student-preparedness issues through tutoring, mentoring and other programs to help students overcome skill deficiencies while placed in credit-bearing courses. Purdue University Fort Wayne may partner with the community colleges to offer remediation concurrent with student enrollment in credit-bearing courses at Purdue University Fort Wayne. Purdue University Fort Wayne should not offer classroom-based, stand-alone remediation, which is the responsibility of the community colleges.

6) **Student Residences:** To promote affordability and reduce campus costs, Purdue University Fort Wayne may offer sufficient on-campus housing to meet the student demand for such housing, subject to the existing approval requirements for any new capital requests including Commission and State Budget Committee review.

7) **Finance:** The Indiana General Assembly provides direct appropriations to Purdue University Fort Wayne based on recommendations from the Commission that are developed in consultation with Purdue University. One component of the appropriation is the State's performance funding formula, which offers Purdue University Fort Wayne more direct control over its appropriations since success in the performance metrics leads directly to a larger appropriation in the formula's output. The Commission shall ensure the performance funding formula metrics are appropriate for the characteristics of the student body enrolled full-time and part-time at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

8) **Research:** Purdue University Fort Wayne facilitates both basic and applied research primarily but not limited exclusively to research having the potential to advance the quality of life in the region in which Purdue University Fort Wayne is located and the competitiveness and recognition of the region's individuals, businesses, and other entities in global commerce and affairs.

9) **Degree Completion:** Purdue University Fort Wayne should significantly improve completion rates to ensure that students' investments and the State's investment are worthwhile and result in high quality academic credentials. A key strategy for Purdue University Fort Wayne should be to offer varying delivery models and schedules that help adult, at-risk and working students overcome scheduling and preparedness challenges and promote opportunities for these student populations to attend college full-time and earn their degrees on-time or at an accelerated pace

10) **Affordability:** Purdue University Fort Wayne should place affordability at the forefront of decisions around resource allocation.