



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

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Indiana University Southeast Selected as the 2024 Stan Jones Award Recipient

IU Southeast will be honored during the 2024 Student Advocates Conference

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana University Southeast has been named the winner of the 2024 Stan Jones Student Success Award as recognition for the institution’s promising student success practices. They will be honored at the 2024 Student Advocates Conference, which is being hosted virtually by the [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](https://che.in.gov) on **Thursday, December 5**.

“Indiana University Southeast’s program has helped students overcome a significant barrier to college completion,” Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery said. “Its student success program saw incredible results and they are well deserving of this award. It takes all of us to support student success in Indiana and IU Southeast is a shining example of HOPE in our state.”

Indiana University Southeast’s Lower-Level Mathematics Student Success Initiative was designed to increase the pass rate of introductory mathematics courses. The institution recognized that low-level mathematics courses had failure rates of about 50 percent post-pandemic. They found that students who failed these courses were more likely to drop out of college. To reverse this trend, the institution added 45 minutes to classes for collaborative work and support from two instructors. The fail or drop rate was reduced by 12 percentage points.

“I am thrilled that our mathematics initiative is being honored for improving student success with the Stan Jones award,” Mildred Vernia, professor of mathematics at Indiana University Southeast said. “I am thankful and proud to teach at Indiana University Southeast, where our student success is the driving force of everything we do.”

The Stan Jones Student Success Award is named after the late Stan Jones, founder and former president of Complete College America and former Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education. The award was created in 2017 and recognizes university campuses with promising practices that support student success initiatives on their campus and beyond.

Student Advocates Conference

[Registration remains open](#) for this year’s Student Advocates Conference. Registration is on a per-session basis. Click on the sessions you’d like to attend and register for each one individually. On the day of the Student Advocates Conference, you can attend any session, however, you will be prompted to complete a registration form before entering the event.

The Student Advocates Conference brings together Indiana college and high school mentors, advisors, and other advocates to attend valuable educational sessions from Commission staff. The theme of this year’s conference is **Completion: Beyond Enrollment to Success**. Attendees will engage with Commission staff who lead agency efforts to increase the college completion rate throughout the state.

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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.