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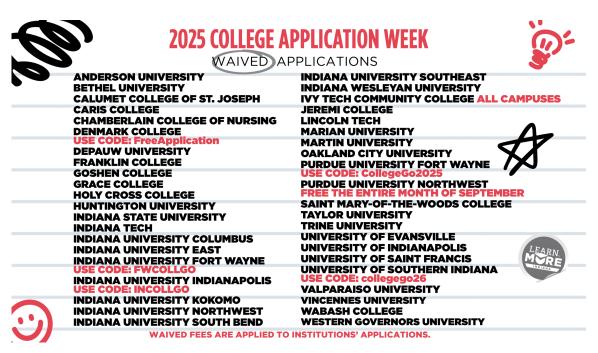
Indiana Celebrates National College Application Week, Sept. 22-26

High school seniors can apply to participating Indiana institutions for free

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The <u>Indiana Commission for Higher Education</u> (Commission) announces over 40 Indiana colleges and universities are participating in Indiana's College Application Week, September 22-26. During this week, students can apply to all participating colleges and universities for free. This annual effort encourages students to apply to Indiana colleges before early application deadlines, allowing students a greater chance of receiving institutional financial aid.

College Application Week is part of <u>Learn More Indiana's</u> annual College GO! initiative which takes place each fall with information and resources designed to help Hoosier K-12 students explore and plan for education beyond high school. This Friday, September 19, #WhyApply Day kicks off College Application Week (Sept. 22-26) with a social media campaign encouraging the public to share why it's important to apply to college.

"Affordability and accessibility must be considered from the earliest steps of the enrollment process, and that first step is the application," says Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "By waiving application fees, more than 40 Indiana colleges are removing a key barrier that too often discourages students from pursuing higher education. When we share our stories and use the power of community and social media, we show students that college is not only possible, it's within reach."



Colleges not indicated above may offer financial assistance for students who demonstrate financial need. Contact the institution for more information about college application fee waivers.

You can view the list of participating colleges and supporting resources online.

College Application Week is sponsored in partnership by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the <u>American College Application Campaign (ACAC)</u> to increase the number of students who pursue education beyond high school, including first-generation and low-income students.

#WhyApply Day - Friday, Sept. 19, 2025

Join us today in telling students and peers why it's important to apply to college. Whether it's a certificate program, two-year or four-year degree, share your reason for applying by using the provided <u>printouts</u> and taking a selfie with the hashtag #WhyApply. There is also a social media toolkit and examples provided to get you started. By sharing motivating messages on social media about the importance of applying to college, you can inspire others to apply by sharing your #Why.

For more information, visit https://learnmoreindiana.org/collegego.

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About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE, Commission) is the State's coordinating agency, driven to improve economic and social mobility for fellow Hoosiers through higher education, and is a part of Governor Mike Braun's Office of Education. The Commission's HOPE (Hoosier Opportunities & Possibilities through Education)

Agenda serves as the agency's strategic plan and mission through 2030, providing seven goals around enrollment, completion, and graduate retention efforts. The Commission also administers Indiana's state financial aid programs, including 21st Century Scholars, which celebrates 35 years in 2025.

About the American College Application Campaign

The American College Application Campaign (ACAC) is a national effort to increase the number of first-generation college students and students from low-income families pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential. The purpose is to assist high school seniors as they navigate the college application and admissions process and ensure each participating student submits at least one admissions application.