

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, December 9, 2011

DISCUSSION ITEM C: Indiana College Cost Estimator Update

Staff Recommendation

For discussion only.

Background

In June 2010, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved an initial two-year license agreement with the National Center for College Costs for the deployment of the Indiana College Costs Estimator website (www.indianacollegecosts.org) and ongoing implementation support services. Supported by a federal College Access Challenge Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the Indiana College Costs Estimator is designed to make federal, state and institutional financial aid transparent on a statewide basis.

Launched publicly in January 2011 as part of Learn More Indiana's annual "Cash for College" campaign, the Indiana College Costs Estimator offers Hoosier students and families a "one stop shop" for calculating and comparing the net cost of college at each of Indiana's public and private colleges. Key features include Expected Family Contribution (EFC) estimates customized by individual/campus, side-by-side cost comparisons of Indiana colleges, "Ask the Expert" sessions, and more.

In an effort to support Indiana colleges in meeting the federal government's related mandate that every higher education institution provide a Net Price Calculator (NPC) on its website by August 2011, the license agreement approved by the Commission also provides the opportunity for Indiana institutions to link to the Indiana College Costs Estimator for that purpose.

Supporting Document

To be distributed.