

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, January 16, 2009

DISCUSSION ITEM E: Update on *Reaching Higher with Affordability Strategies*

Staff Recommendation

For discussion only.

Background

In *Reaching Higher with Affordability*, the Commission made the following recommendations:

- Support a multifaceted and well-integrated effort delivered consistently over time to students and their parents that raises awareness of both the value of early planning and the availability of student financial aid.
- Establish a “College Day” to provide college and financial aid information to every student at every high school in the state with hands-on assistance in completing financial aid forms and college applications.
- Expand the Twenty-first Century Scholars enrollment program to further penetrate the pool of students eligible but not participating in the program.
- Ensure that Indiana’s March 10 deadline for financial aid is not a barrier.

Staff will report on the implementation progress of these recommendations including:

Statewide pilot of new “application-free” Twenty-first Century Scholars enrollment process for eligible 6th graders kicking off in February.

Expanded Learn More Indiana and Indiana’s College Success Coalition efforts to increase the number of Indiana students who complete the FAFSA by March 10:

- **College Goal Sunday**, February 15 at 2 p.m. (local time). The event provides free assistance at 36 locations throughout Indiana for students and parents filling out the FAFSA. Hoosiers can submit their FAFSA online at any site.
- **FAFSA Friday** is an additional push for families needing assistance with filling out the FAFSA prior to the March 10 deadline. On Friday, February 27th, Learn More Indiana will connect Hoosiers to financial aid advisors through a state-wide webinar. Students, counselors, teachers and parents can view the presentation and chat with financial aid advisors by logging onto www.learnmoreindiana.org/cashforcollege

between the hours of 11a.m.-2p.m. and 6p.m.-9p.m. Spanish assistance will be provided.

- **www.learnmoreindiana.org/cashforcollege** offers online step-by step instructions on how to fill out the FAFSA. In addition, Hoosiers can download a free publication, *Indiana's Guide to Paying for College: Step-by-Step Tips To Help High School Seniors Apply for Financial Aid*, or receive a copy by calling Learn More at 1-800-992-2076.

Planning for new statewide College GO! Monday event - to be held next fall. Goals for the event include every high school senior completing a college application and every high school junior enrolling in Indiana e-Transcript.

Supporting Document

Indiana's College Success Coalition Overview Presentation



Indiana's College Success Coalition

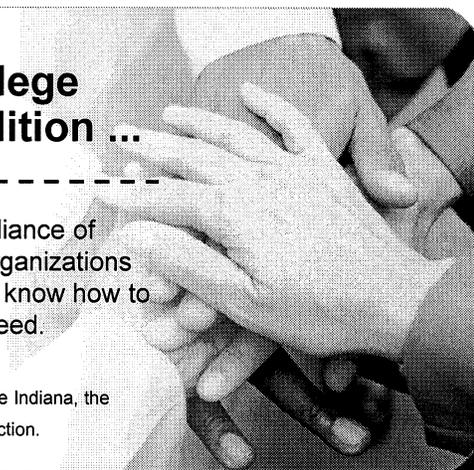
*Do a little.
Do a lot.*



Indiana's College Success Coalition ...

A growing statewide alliance of local individuals and organizations helping more Hoosiers know how to go to college and succeed.

The coalition is led by Learn More Indiana, the state's college and career connection.





Indiana's Current Reality ...

High School to College Completion

Of every 100 Indiana 9th graders:



70 students graduate from high school



44 of these students enter college



32 of these are still enrolled sophomore year



23 of these graduate within six years



Source: NCHEMS, www.HigherEdInfo.org



Indiana's African American Education Pipeline

High School to College Completion

Of every 100 African American 9th graders:



57 students graduate from high school



27 of these students enter college



18 of these are still enrolled sophomore year



10 of these graduate within six years



Source: IN DOE, ICHE SIS data system.



Indiana's Hispanic Education Pipeline

High School to College Completion

Of every 100 Hispanic 9th graders:



62 students graduate from high school



37 of these students enter college



27 of these are still enrolled sophomore year



14 of these graduate within six years



Source: IN DOE, ICHE data systems



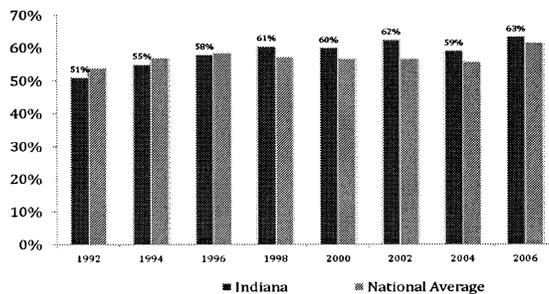
Our Goal ...

10,000 more college graduates each year

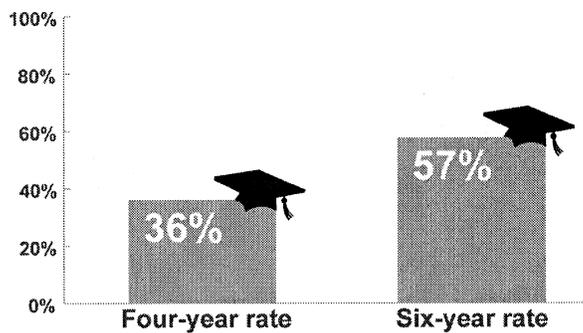
For our state and our communities to be economically competitive.



More Indiana Students Need To Go to College

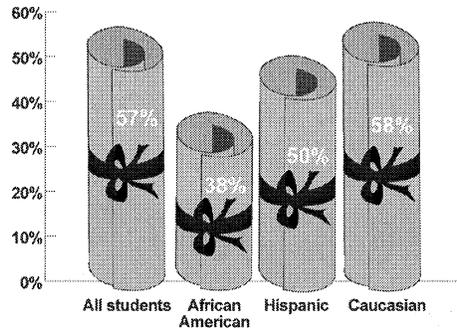


More Indiana Students Need To Finish College



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey, 2006

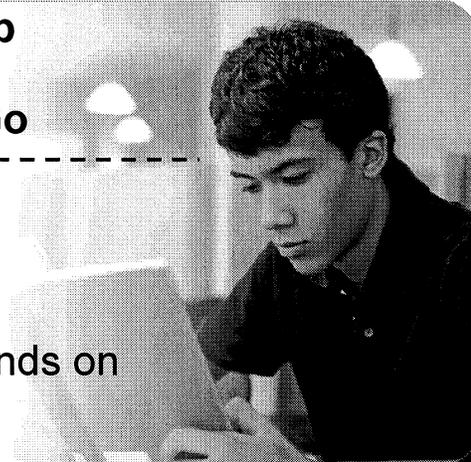
More Students of Color Need To Complete College



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey, 2006

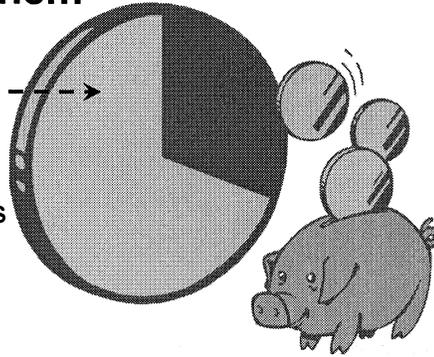
You Can Help Students KnowHow2Go

- Be a pain
- Push yourself
- Find the right fit
- Put your hands on some cash



Let's Show Them the Money

69% of Indiana
11th graders from
noncollege families
do not think they
can afford college



Source: Indiana's Annual Career and College Information Survey of Students in Grades 9 and 11, 2007

Students Need Cash ... and Information on How To Get It

46% of 11th graders say they can't
afford college

65% say they need financial aid
information

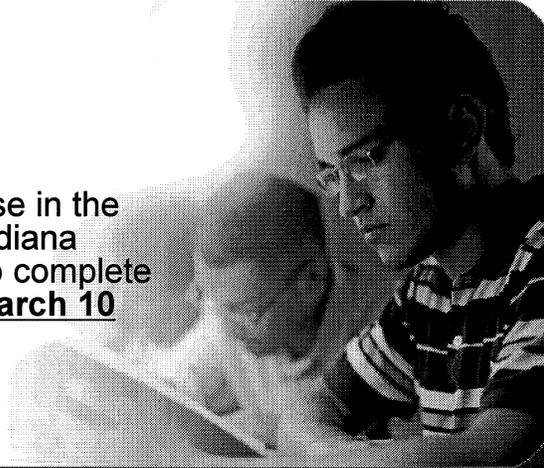
69% don't know the difference
between need-based financial aid
and merit-based financial aid





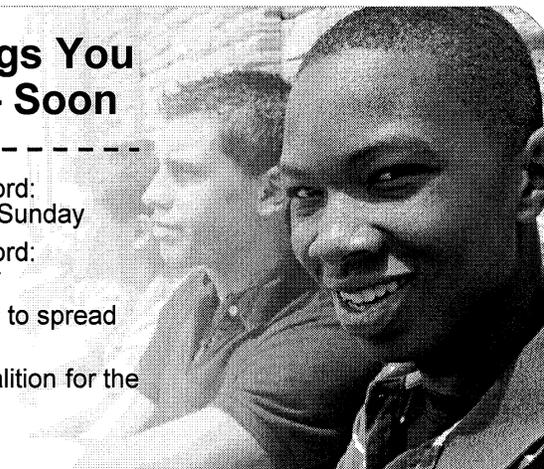
Goal:

Major increase in the number of Indiana students who complete FAFSA by **March 10**



Four Things You Can Do — Soon

- Spread the word: College Goal Sunday
- Spread the word: FAFSA Friday
- Recruit others to spread the word
- Build your coalition for the long term





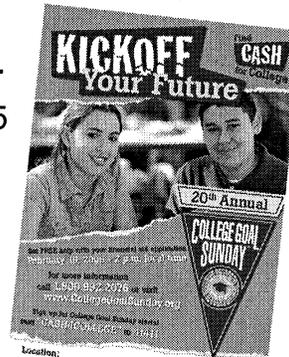
Spread the Word: College Goal Sunday

College Goal Sunday: Feb. 15

- Students and families get free help filling out the FAFSA (federal financial aid forms)
- Families can submit the FAFSA online at the event
- 36 College Goal Sunday locations statewide

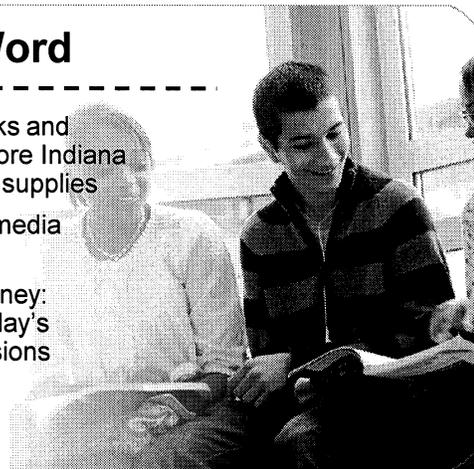
How many in your area
attended last year?

Let's double that number!



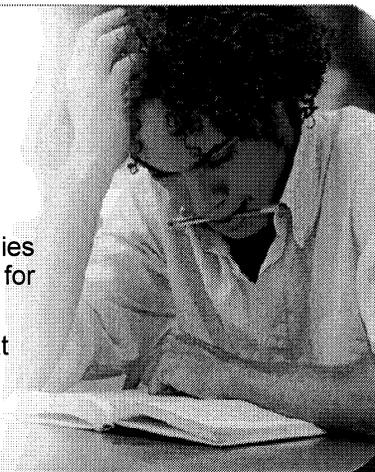
Spread the Word

- Distribute bookmarks and posters — Learn More Indiana will be sending you supplies
- Support statewide media campaign
- Show Them the Money: starting point for today's small group discussions



Spread the Word: FAFSA Friday

- Friday, Feb. 27, 2009
- One more push to help families meet the March 10 deadline for filing the FAFSA
- Questions answered via chat with financial aid officers 11-2 a.m., 6-9 p.m.
- FAFSA video: All day



More Opportunities ...

- **Support in-school Twenty-first Century Scholars events:** (February–May 2009)
 - New in-school enrollment process for 6th graders who qualify for free or reduced price lunch
 - No application — just the pledge ceremony
- **Convene again in the spring**
 - Session on building your coalition
- **Help plan two “KnowHow2” events for next school year:**
 - College GO! Monday (Fall 2009)
 - College for All Hoosiers Rally (Winter 2010)





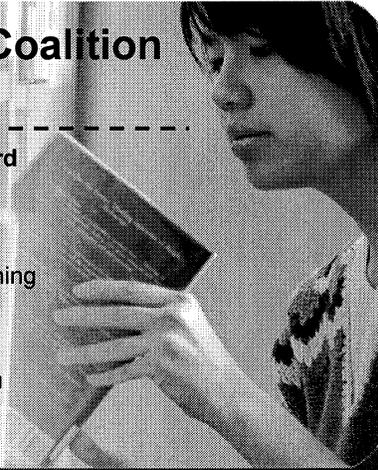
Build Your Local Coalition for the Long Term

Recruit others to spread the word

- Know who's already signed up
- Identify new prospects
- Everyone can do a little something

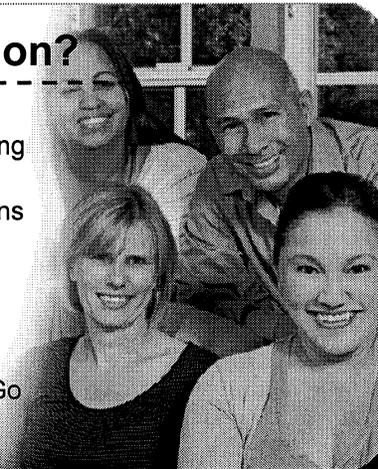
Develop your own strategies

In addition to promoting these statewide events, what can you do in your community to help more students be successful?



What Is the Coalition?

- It's you
- Caring adults communicating about college and careers
- Individuals and organizations helping students in your community take the steps necessary to go to college and succeed
- Working closely with Learn More Indiana, KnowHow2Go and other efforts



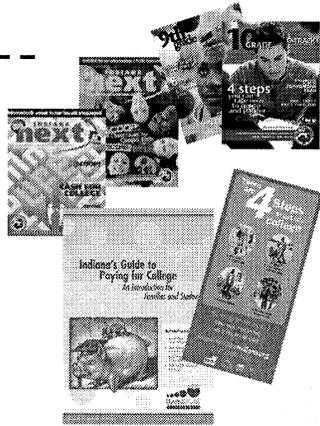


Learn More Indiana

Providing information

- In print
- In person
- Through partnerships
- And on the Web

To get more Hoosiers to and through college



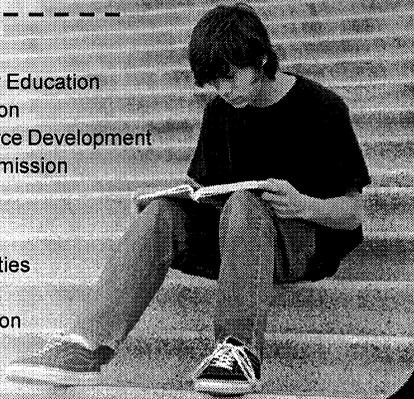
Learn More Indiana

A partnership of:

- Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- Indiana Department of Education
- Indiana Department of Workforce Development
- State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana

With additional support from:

- Indiana's colleges and universities
- USA Funds
- Lumina Foundation for Education
- USDOE College Access Challenge Grant



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Indiana's
**College
SUCCESS**
COALITION

**When you and your
fellow Hoosiers
agree to do *a little* ...**

... you end up doing *a lot*
to help students get to
and through college.

