



INDIANA *for* COMMISSION
HIGHER EDUCATION



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MEDIA CONTACT: Jason Bearce
317.464.4404 x. 119
jbearce@che.in.gov

Commission acts to limit tuition, boost college completion

Recommendations would limit tuition increases to 2 percent, redesign remediation

NEW ALBANY, IND. – The Indiana Commission for Higher Education today adopted policy recommendations designed to limit tuition increases at the state's colleges and to improve the success rates of Hoosier students that require remediation in college. The actions took place at the Commission's meeting at the Indiana University Southeast campus in New Albany.

"Controlling rising tuition costs and dramatically improving college completion rates are essential strategies for increasing Hoosiers' return on investment in higher education," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers. "Our Commission's recommendations to limit tuition increases and to fundamentally redesign how college remediation is delivered in Indiana are driven by a sense of urgency to ensure college affordability and student success."

Recommended Tuition Caps

The Commission is charged by state statute with recommending non-binding tuition and mandatory fee increase targets every two years for each of Indiana's public colleges and universities. Though authority for setting tuition rates rests with Indiana colleges' boards of trustees, the General Assembly has sought the Commission's expertise and influence in curtailing tuition costs that have increased by nearly 100 percent over the past decade.

"Indiana lawmakers stepped up this session and invested more than \$235 million in additional dollars to support the operations of our colleges and universities over the next two years," said Lubbers. "Now we're asking our colleges to do their part by limiting their tuition increases to no higher than the rate of inflation."

During the development of its higher education budget recommendations for 2013-15, the Commission tied its support for increased funding for the state's colleges to an expectation that tuition and fee increases be held at or below the rate of inflation. Based on an analysis of financial indicators that included various Consumer Price Indices, the Commission recommended that resident undergraduate base tuition and mandatory fees increase no more than 2 percent per year over the next two years.

Remediation Redesign

Nearly a third of recent Indiana high school graduates and more than two-thirds of the state's community college students require remediation in English and mathematics. Less than one in five Indiana college students in postsecondary remediation will graduate within six years. The annual cost of postsecondary remediation to Hoosier students and taxpayers is estimated to exceed \$35 million at the state's community college alone.

In an effort to address the remediation issue, the Commission has been working in partnership with Ivy Tech Community College and the national nonprofit Complete College America to redesign remediation through instructional practices that reduce the time students spend in remediation and accelerate their transition to college-level coursework. Ivy Tech has shown promising success at delivering remediation through a co-requisite remediation model that places students directly in college-level courses with supplemental support.

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In a resolution adopted today, the Commission endorsed the co-requisite strategy as a statewide best practice and affirmed Ivy Tech's goal of delivering 100 percent of its remedial coursework through the co-requisite model by 2014.

The Commission further endorsed common college-readiness standards, assessments and supplemental instruction in high school as a preferred remediation-prevention strategy and resolved to work in partnership with the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Department of Workforce Development to develop a well-coordinated and aligned statewide remediation strategy by 2015.

To read the full text of the Commission's *Resolution to Redesign Remediation in Indiana*, visit www.che.in.gov.

Resolution to Redesign Remediation in Indiana

May 9, 2013

WHEREAS, nearly a third of recent Indiana high school graduates and more than two-thirds of the state's community college require postsecondary remediation in English or mathematics;

WHEREAS, less than one in five Indiana college students in postsecondary remediation will graduate within six years;

WHEREAS, the annual cost of postsecondary remediation to Hoosier students and taxpayers is estimated to exceed \$35 million at Indiana's community college alone;

WHEREAS, Indiana's K-12 and higher education systems must strengthen efforts to reduce the number of high school graduates who require postsecondary remediation through increased academic preparation and early intervention;

WHEREAS, Indiana must promote instructional practices that reduce the time college students spend in remediation and accelerate their successful transition to college-level coursework;

WHEREAS, research has shown that many students identified as needing postsecondary remediation can succeed in credit-bearing, gateway college courses when given the opportunity and additional support;

WHEREAS, Indiana's community college has shown promising success at delivering remediation through a co-requisite model that places students in college-level courses with supplemental support; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education is committed to championing state policies and practices that increase college completion, productivity and academic quality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- I. Early Intervention:** The Commission endorses common college-readiness standards, assessments and supplemental instruction in high school as the optimal and preferred method of ensuring students are prepared to succeed in postsecondary education;
- II. College Remediation:** The Commission endorses the co-requisite model as a statewide best practice for postsecondary remediation and affirms Ivy Tech Community College's goal of delivering 100 percent of its remedial coursework through the co-requisite model by 2014; and
- III. Comprehensive System:** The Commission is committed to developing a well-coordinated and aligned statewide remediation strategy by 2015 in partnership with the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Department of Workforce Development that increases student success and education attainment.