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Higher Education Commission Announces Launch of My College Core

The site is slated to be the one-stop shop for the Indiana College Core

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The Indiana Commission for Higher Education announced today the launch of a new planning tool for the Indiana College Core. The site, My College Core, allows students, families and school counselors to access information regarding college-level coursework, including dual credit, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP) and College-Level Examination Program (CLEP).

Students who utilize the tool can build plans that are specific to the college-level coursework offered at their high school. The tool also allows students to communicate their plans with parents/guardians and school counselors. As students complete coursework they can track their progress toward completing the Indiana College Core certificate.

Implemented in 2012, the Indiana College Core is a block of 30-credit hours of college-level general education coursework that applies seamlessly to all Indiana public institutions and some private institutions and is made up of six competency areas. The certificate allows high school students to earn a full year of general education credits for little to no cost.



The Indiana College Core is central to the Commission's goal of increasing the college-going rate and college completion.

Students who earn the Indiana College Core in high school are more likely to graduate from college on time or early. Recent data show nearly 2,100 high school students earned the Indiana College Core in 2021 and about 90 percent of those students went on to attend college. Currently, 222 of high schools offer the Indiana College Core, up from 141 last year and 84 in the previous year. The Commission has set a goal to have over 500 high schools in the state offer the certificate by the end of 2026.

"The drive to expand the Indiana College Core was inspired by the high college-going rate for students who complete the program and the significant cost savings the program provides to students and families," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "I extend my gratitude to the high schools that are participating in this initiative and to our higher education institutions for supporting this important work."

Indiana's higher education institutions are integral in carrying out the Indiana College Core. Institutions have an agreement with participating Indiana high schools to deliver the Indiana College Core to students through dual credit opportunities. Ball State University, Indiana University Bloomington, Indiana University East, Indiana University Kokomo, Indiana University Northwest, Indiana University South Bend, Indiana University Southeast, Ivy Tech Community College, Purdue University Fort Wayne, Purdue University Northwest, the University of Southern Indiana, and Vincennes University all award the Indiana College Core certificate in high school.

"The Indiana College Core is the best value in higher education," Ivy Tech President Sue Ellspermann said. "With My College Core, parents and students can be intentional about the credits a student earns while in high school, leading to a quality credential before students graduate high school."

The University of Indianapolis is the first private institution to commit to accepting the Indiana College Core as the 30-credit hour block. Additionally, the <u>Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning</u> (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis supports schools in developing course plans, selecting college providers, credentialing dual credit teachers, and ensuring first-generation, low-income, and minority students have equal access to the Indiana College Core.

For more information about the Indiana College Core, including a <u>map</u> of high school delivery sites and their corresponding campus partners, and other resources for high schools, visit <u>MyCollegeCore.org</u>.

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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. Learn more about the Commission's Reaching Higher in a State of Change strategic plan at www.in.gov/che.