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Indiana Office of Career and Technical Education Hosts Annual Awards for Excellence Recognition Program

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The [Indiana Office of Career and Technical Education](#) hosted the annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) Awards for Excellence recognition program on Wednesday, May 3. The event celebrates accomplished secondary and postsecondary students, programs of study, employer partnerships and guidance counselors in CTE throughout the state. The event was facilitated in partnership with the [Indiana Association of Career and Technical Education \(IACTE\)](#).

“The Awards for Excellence program provides an opportunity to shine a spotlight on students excelling in CTE and the instructors, employer partners, counselors and others who make these experiences possible,” said Tony Harl, State Director of Career and Technical Education.

Thirty-two award recipients were recognized across the eight eligible categories. All nominees were evaluated on a set of identified criteria following nominations from CTE directors, instructors, postsecondary representatives and other stakeholders. Criteria for student award winners include earning credentials, dual credits and participating in work-based learning through their CTE programs.

Student award winners were also presented with a scholarship to Ivy Tech Community College or Vincennes University that can be claimed if they continue their education at either institution. The scholarship from Ivy Tech for both secondary and postsecondary student award winners is in the amount of \$2,000.

“Our partnership with CTE continues to produce intentional and innovative approaches to providing an accessible and affordable education for all Hoosiers,” Dr. Sue Ellspermann, Ivy Tech President said. “Through this collaboration, we’re pleased to provide Ivy Tech scholarships that amplify the extraordinary work of the 2023 Awards for Excellence winners, while continuing to deliver on our promise of a world-class education, placing more students on pathways to high-wage, high-demand careers.”

Secondary students were offered a \$2,000 scholarship from Vincennes University, and postsecondary students a housing scholarship.

“First, congratulations to all of the 2023 Awards for Excellence winners! Vincennes University celebrates their hard work and the dedication of the educators who helped them along the way to this achievement,” Dr. Chuck Johnson, Vincennes University President said. “VU is a proud partner in CTE education throughout our great state and we are pleased to announce new scholarships to help the Award for Excellence recipients continue their education in a Vincennes University certificate, associate or bachelor’s degree program.”

A list of award recipients can be accessed at [this link](#) and event photos will be available soon [here](#). Additional information about individual award winners, including photos, is available by contacting Stefany Deckard, Executive Director of IACTE, at director@indianaacte.org.

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About the Indiana Office of Career and Technical Education:

Operating under the [Governor’s Workforce Cabinet](#), the Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) serves as an integral part of Indiana’s talent development system. The OCTE helps to connect industry, workforce development, and education through the development and implementation of rigorous and relevant career and technical education (CTE) programs of study that prepare students for a wide range of high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand careers. Students in Indiana’s CTE programs will gain the knowledge, skills and abilities needed for success in postsecondary education and economically viable career opportunities.

About the Indiana Association of Career and Technical Education (IACTE)

The [Indiana Association for Career and Technical Education \(IACTE\)](#) aims to promote and build career and technical education for Hoosier students by providing high-quality professional development, access to invaluable career resources, and a knowledgeable network of CTE professionals to secondary and postsecondary educators.