



INDIANA *for* COMMISSION  
HIGHER EDUCATION



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Commissioner kicks off statewide 'college success' tour**

Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers will kick off a statewide "College Success Tour" this week with a visit to Shelby County on Wednesday, Sept. 4. The regional events are part of an ongoing effort to engage local community leaders, students and families in increasing the number of Hoosiers with education beyond high school.

"We have a sense of urgency to dramatically raise the education level of Hoosiers across our state," said Lubbers. "Our success will depend upon local communities rallying around the common cause of increasing college completion."

Indiana currently ranks 40<sup>th</sup> nationally in both education attainment and personal per capita income, two data points that are directly linked to the fact that only a third of Hoosier adults have more than a high school diploma. Indiana has set a goal of increasing the proportion of Hoosiers with a college credential, including one-year workforce certificates, two-year associate degrees and four year bachelor's degrees, to 60 percent of the state's population by 2025.

### **College Success Summits**

Sponsored by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, the regional "College Success Summits" events will take place in each of the eight outreach regions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars program, the state's premier college scholarship and preparation program for low-income students. Each regional event will be hosted by a county College Success Coalition, a growing statewide network of nearly 1,500 local organizations working to increase college access and success.

Through the Commission's Learn More Indiana outreach initiative, the state has supported the development of 50 county College Success Coalitions to date with another 20 counties invited to form coalitions this fall. Learn more about joining or starting a coalition in your county at [LearnMoreIndiana.org/Coalitions](http://LearnMoreIndiana.org/Coalitions).

### **Success Dates and Locations**

- Sept. 4: Shelby County, Shelbyville, Ind.
- Sept. 9: Monroe County, Bloomington, Ind.
- Sept. 18: Harrison County, Corydon, Ind.
- Sept. 24: Parke County, Rockville, Ind.
- Sept. 24: Vigo County, Terre Haute, Ind.
- Oct. 24: Lawrence County, Bedford, Ind.
- Oct. 30: Hamilton County, Westfield, Ind.

For more details on the upcoming College Success Summit in your area, call 812-349-4142. The events are part of an ongoing public engagement effort designed to increase the education level of all Hoosiers. Learn more about the Commission for Higher Education's "Reaching Higher, Achieving More" strategic plan at [www.che.in.gov](http://www.che.in.gov).