



**INDIANA COMMISSION** *for*  
**HIGHER EDUCATION**

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## State helps Hoosiers get ‘Cash for College’

*Kick-off event at Purdue Polytechnic High School*

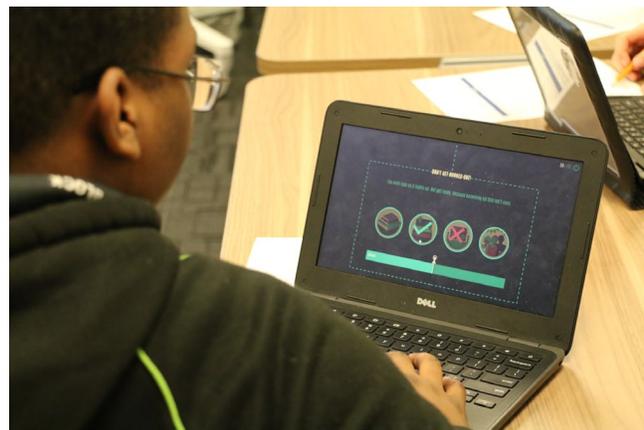
The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](http://che.in.gov) launched its 2019 Cash for College campaign today to encourage Indiana students to take steps that will help them pay for education and training after high school—including filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](http://fafsa.gov)) by the state’s April 15 deadline.

“Indiana has one of the most generous state financial aid systems in the country, ranking fourth in the nation and first in the midwest for need-based financial aid,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers. “Although we distribute more than \$300 million in state aid each year, too many Hoosiers miss out by failing to research their options and file the FAFSA. With Cash for College, we hope to send a clear message to students and families that education beyond high school is within the reach of all Hoosiers if they prepare.”

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education continues to partner with Indiana school corporations to drive up the number of high school seniors filing a FAFSA on time. Whether they are seeking federal or state financial aid or pursuing academic scholarships—completing a FAFSA is a critical step in securing financial support for college.

Throughout the next few months, the state is also encouraging schools and communities to host regional events with financial aid experts to help students learn about the costs of college, open a CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan, apply for Indiana’s [21st Century Scholars](http://che.in.gov) program, search for scholarships and file the FAFSA.

This morning, the Commission hosted a Cash for College launch event at Purdue Polytechnic High School in Indianapolis. Commissioner Lubbers spoke to the students about keeping college affordable for Hoosier families and shared some best practices for preparing for education beyond high school. Students participated in a virtual “paying for college” simulation and a raffle to win a \$100 [CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan](http://che.in.gov).



*Indiana’s Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers spoke with freshmen and sophomore students at Purdue Polytechnic about paying for college.*

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### **About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education**

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is a 14-member public body created in 1971 to define the missions of Indiana's colleges and universities, plan and coordinate the state's postsecondary education system, and ensure that Indiana's higher education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. The Commission includes representatives from each Congressional district, three at-large members, a college faculty representative and a college student representative. Learn more about the Commission's *Reaching Higher, Delivering Value* strategic plan at [www.in.gov/che/](http://www.in.gov/che/).

### **Learn More Indiana**

Learn More Indiana offers a variety of helpful tips and resources for K-12 students, current college students and returning adult students, including the Indiana College Costs Estimator. Available online at [IndianaCollegeCosts.org](http://IndianaCollegeCosts.org), the free tool offers side-by-side cost comparisons that show how much students should expect to pay out-of-pocket at each Indiana college once various sources of financial aid are applied, as well as details on local scholarship opportunities.