



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

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## **\$80,000 in Grant Funding Available to Support College, Career Readiness**

*State Higher Ed Commission accepting applications through March 18*

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](https://www.in.gov/che/) is accepting applications for the 2022 School and Community Partnership Grant until March 18. These grants are designed to bring together K-12 schools, postsecondary institutions, employers and community organizations to plan and implement supportive efforts for students of all ages to complete education and training beyond high school.

The [School and Community Partnership Grant](#) is designed to support collaborative efforts focused on three main college and career readiness priorities:

- Completing the [21st Century Scholars'](#) Scholar Success Program and maintaining academic eligibility with at least a 2.5 grade point average;
- Family engagement programming focused on college and career readiness, including enrollment in the 21st Century Scholars program and the [Workforce Ready Grant](#); and
- Pre-college and postsecondary professional development focused on Indiana's [college achievement gap](#).

“The value of education and training beyond high school is at a tipping point,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers. “The School and Community Partnership Grants provide valuable support to the Commission’s partners to encourage students and returning adults to pursue higher education.”



Grant funding is made possible through [Indiana Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs](#) (GEAR UP). Led by a team of staff from Purdue University and the Commission, one of the primary goals of Indiana GEAR UP is to increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

A total of \$80,000 is available for the spring/summer grant cycle. Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$5,000 for programming. If the partnership directly supports an [Indiana GEAR UP cohort high school](#), the award amount is increased to \$10,000. Preference will be given to applications that focus on developing sustainable support for students and families at one or more of the GEAR UP partner high schools.

“What creativity and innovation look like may be different across local communities,” said Indiana GEAR UP Director Virginia Bolshakova. “This funding is responsive and flexible to those differences in helping us achieve the state’s goal of 60 percent of Hoosiers with a quality degree or credential by 2025.”

Additional points will be awarded for narratives that support high-need focus areas, including career exploration, completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), closing college achievement gaps for minority and low-income Hoosier students, 21st Century Scholar enrollment, Scholar Success Program completion and adult student engagement.

For more information about the School and Community Partnership Grant, visit <https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars/alumni-partners/>.

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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](http://www.in.gov/che).