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Applications for Indiana Teaching Scholarships are Open

Students have until January 31 to apply for a renewable \$10,000 scholarship

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The <u>Indiana Commission for Higher Education</u> is currently accepting applications for the <u>Next</u> <u>Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship</u>, which provides up to \$40,000 of financial aid to aspiring teachers.

High-achieving high school and college students who plan to teach in Indiana for at least five years can receive up to \$10,000 per year of college (up to \$40,000 total) from the scholarship. Students must apply by January 31, 2024, at ScholarTrack.IN.gov.

Additionally, lawmakers established the Next Generation Hoosier Minority Educators Scholarship during the 2023 legislative session. This new scholarship will expand the number of recipients and encourage the educator workforce to be reflective of student demographics. The award provides Black and Hispanic or Latino recipients with up to \$10,000 per year of college and shares the same requirements as the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship. The application is built within the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship application.

To qualify for either scholarship, students must meet **one** of the following academic requirements:

- Rank in the top 20% of their high school graduating class OR
- Have a top 20th percentile score on the ACT (25) or SAT (1190) OR
- Have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale

Students who apply for both the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship and the Next Generation Hoosier Minority Educators Scholarship can only be selected for one of the awards.

"Many of Indiana's best and brightest future teachers are applicants of these scholarship opportunities," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "The rigorous academic requirements and selective applicant process ensure that we are putting forth high-quality teachers in Indiana's educator pipeline. We are grateful for the generous investment from the Indiana General Assembly to double the appropriation for the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship and create the parallel Next Generation Hoosier Minority Educators Scholarship."

Entering its eighth year, the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship is making a difference in building Indiana's teacher pipeline. Nearly 90 percent of the scholarship recipients from the inaugural 2017 cohort are either continuing their education or are actively teaching in Hoosier classrooms. Additionally, the recipients represent 90 counties and 227 high schools.

To continue earning the scholarship while in college, students must annually file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), earn at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and complete at least 30 credit hours. Additionally, current college students who apply must be able to use the scholarship for at least two full academic years.

The Commission will notify applicants of their scholarship status via email in April 2024. Visit www.learnmoreindiana.org/NextTeacher for more information and follow #NextTeacher on social media to stay updated on scholarship announcements.

Questions can be directed to NextTeacher@che.in.gov.

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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.