

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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College tuition assistance program deadline is June 30, 2008

Last chance for Indiana 8th-grade students of 2007-08 to sign up for Twenty-first Century Scholars

If you think you can't possibly save enough to fund your child's college education, think again. Twenty-first Century Scholars aims to ensure that all Indiana families can afford a college education — but families with 8th-graders need to act quickly and make sure they **complete and return the application by June 30**. Help Learn More Indiana get the word out to all families with 8th-grade students. Applications may be requested by calling the Twenty-first Century Scholars central office at 1-888-528-4719 or Learn More Indiana at 1-800-992-2076.

Twenty-first Century Scholars Program

Income-eligible 7th- and 8th-graders who enroll in the program and fulfill a pledge of good citizenship to the state are guaranteed the cost of four years of undergraduate college tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If the student attends a private institution, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a public institution. If the student attends a participating proprietary school, the state will award a tuition scholarship equal to that of Ivy Tech Community College. For information about Scholars, citizenship qualifications or income requirements visit www.scholars.in.gov.

Step up to the pledge

Prior to committing to the program, students must pledge the following:

- I will graduate with an Indiana High School Diploma from a charter school, freeway or other Indiana school recognized by the Indiana Department of Education.
- I will achieve a cumulative high school GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- I will not use illegal drugs or alcohol, or commit a crime.
- I will apply for admission to an eligible Indiana college, university or proprietary school as a high school senior.
- I will apply on time for state and federal financial aid.

Connect to Learn More Indiana

Learn More Indiana's Web site, www.learnmoreindiana.org, is a resource for students, families, adults, teachers and school counselors regarding the steps it takes to get to college and link to reliable career information. Hoosiers can get free publications, planners and checklists to keep them on track for college. Learn More Indiana's toll-free helpline (1-800-992-2076) provides personalized assistance 24/7 including information on paying for college and applying for financial aid.