

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 26, 2009

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Your college and career connection!

March 10 Financial Aid Deadline Fast Approaching

Indiana to host first-ever statewide financial aid webinar this Friday to help Hoosiers file

To help families file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 10, Learn More Indiana is hosting a free online event on Feb. 27: FAFSA Friday, the first event of its kind in the nation.

FAFSA Friday will be held at www.learnmoreindiana.org/FAFSAFriday where students and families can access seven short step-by-step videos that will walk them through each section of the FAFSA. In addition, financial aid advisors will be available to answer questions from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and then again from 6 to 9 p.m.

“Meeting the March 10 deadline is critical for Hoosier families,” said Stan Jones, Indiana’s Commissioner for Higher Education. “FAFSA Friday is a great opportunity for students and families to get last-minute help from home with filing the FAFSA.”

To be considered for the largest possible amount of state and federal financial aid, anyone attending college this fall needs to submit the FAFSA by Indiana’s March 10 deadline. Submitting the FAFSA is also necessary to be considered for the majority of government-backed loans.

Last year, the federal government gave out \$83 billion in college financial aid. In addition, Indiana provided more than \$233.5 million in state financial aid through nearly 73,000 grants. Simply because they did not file on time, 150,000 Hoosiers missed out last year on \$230 million in free cash for college.

In addition to FAFSA Friday, Learn More Indiana provides additional information to help families understand how to pay for college. To download *Indiana’s Guide to Paying for College: Step-by-Step Tips To Help High School Seniors Apply for Financial Aid* and view other helpful resources, visit www.learnmoreindiana.org/cashforcollege.

FAFSA Friday is made possible through the support of IHETS Interactive--a consortium that works to advance the education and public service activities of its members through reliable, cost-effective shared technology and eLearning services. IHETS Interactive includes Indiana’s public and private higher education institutions, state government agencies, public libraries, public broadcast stations, and K-12 schools.

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About Learn More Indiana: Learn More Indiana provides information in print, in person, through partnerships and on the Web to help Hoosiers get to and through college. Learn More Indiana is a partnership of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, the Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana, with additional support from Indiana’s colleges and universities, USA Funds, Lumina Foundation for Education, and US DOE College Access Challenge Grant—all working together to provide information that supports learning. For additional information, go to www.learnmoreindiana.org.