

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 23, 2008

MEDIA CONTACT:

Elizabeth Crouch
Learn More Indiana
317-464-4400 x 40



Survey finds that Hoosier students are setting sights on higher education

Learn More Indiana offers students support in achieving college goals

According to Learn More Indiana's 2007-2008 Annual Career and College Information Survey results, Hoosier students are setting their sights on college; however, results also reveal that students are unfocused when it comes to planning and preparing for life after high school.

Learn More Indiana, a state effort to help more Hoosiers get to and through college, surveyed 56,128 ninth-grade students and 45,571 eleventh-grade students at more than 320 public and private high schools across the state about their plans for the future.

Survey results

Overall, survey results support the need for Hoosiers to connect with Learn More Indiana to know how to go to college:

- Ninety-six percent of both ninth- and eleventh-graders surveyed said they plan to continue education after high school.
- Fifty-six percent of ninth-graders and 38 percent of eleventh-graders surveyed reported they have not developed a plan for further training or education after high school.
- Sixty-one percent of ninth-graders and 50 percent of eleventh-graders surveyed said they didn't know where to find college admission requirements for the schools they want to attend.
- Sixty-four percent of ninth-graders and 61 percent of eleventh-graders said they needed help when it comes to preparing for education or training after high school.

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. Learn More Indiana is also the lead partner for the KnowHow2GOIndiana campaign (www.KnowHow2GOIndiana.org) designed to encourage students, especially those who will be the first in their families to pursue college, to take the necessary steps to turn their college dreams into a reality. This campaign is part of the national KnowHow2GO effort led by the Ad Council, American Council on Education and the Lumina Foundation for Education.

About the survey

Learn More Indiana's 2007-2008 Annual Career and College Information Survey provides insight into what students need for college and career planning and encourages students to think about their plans for education after high school. Students answered a series of questions about the highest level of education they expect to achieve, plans for their first year after high school, planning and paying for college, apprenticeships, military training and plans for residing in Indiana. Students were also asked about career interests and exploration, preferred ways to receive college/career information and

Web and Internet access and usage.

Scanned, assembled and analyzed by the Center for Evaluation & Education Policy (CEEP) of Indiana University, the surveys were distributed in October 2007 to 444 Indiana public and private schools for students enrolled in ninth and/or eleventh grade. For the complete report, visit www.learnmoreindiana.org today.

-30-

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 and the Lumina Foundation for Education—all working together to provide information that supports learning.

Story Ideas

- How do your schools compare to the state's average of student aspirations?
- What is the highest level of education students in your area expect to achieve?
- Do students in your schools understand what they need to do to prepare for college?
- Do students in your area need information/advice on preparing for education/training after high school?
- Do your students think that they can afford college?
- Consult www.learnmoreindiana.org for more story ideas.