YOU CAN. GO BACK.

Statewide effort to help 750,000+ Hoosiers finish their degrees.

the CHALLENGE

637,000 degrees or certificates needed to reach 60% attainment rate goal

546,000 Indiana high school students to graduate between 2016 and 2024

750,000 Hoosiers with some college, but no degree

CURRENT Indiana postsecondary educational attainment rate: 41%

Indiana’s BIG GOAL for educational attainment rate to be reached by 2025: 60%

the RESPONSE

You Can. Go Back.

is a statewide campaign launched in 2016 by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education with support of the Indiana General Assembly and the state’s colleges and universities that aims to help Hoosier adults with some college but no degree finish what they started. You Can. Go Back, is a multi-phased effort that features: 1) direct outreach with adult students, 2) assessment of institutional practices that support returning adults and 3) employer engagement.

Financial Incentives

• $300 million in need-based state financial aid distributed annually
• $15 million in state aid available specifically for adult students through Indiana’s new Adult Student Grant ($1,000 grants on a first-come, first-served basis for qualifying students)
• Application fee waivers, tuition discounts, scholarships, debt forgiveness and other special incentives offered by Indiana colleges to returning adults

Outreach & Engagement

The initial You Can. Go Back, engagement strategy has featured direct outreach to Hoosier adults with at least 25% of the credits required for a degree as well as Indiana employers across the state.

Student Response

• 9,000+ students who received targeted outreach have re-enrolled in school
• 5,360+ Adult Student Grants have been awarded
• 4,900+ students have been connected with participating colleges via the You Can. Go Back, college match tool

University Response

• 30 Indiana public and private colleges are participating as You Can. Go Back, partners
• Campus ambassadors have been identified at each institution to help smooth the transition back to college for returning adults
• Colleges are promoting expanded opportunities for returning adults to earn academic credit for work and military experience and ramping up online and night-and-weekend course offerings

the RESULTS …SO FAR

In only the first year, the response to You Can. Go Back, has been significant:

CALL TO ACTION

Financial Incentives

Outreach & Engagement

Guiding Strategies

1. Build statewide financial aid program that supports adult learners
2. Charge institutions to develop programing and incentives to eliminate barriers for returning adults
3. Reach out to former students directly and help them get started
4. Engage employers statewide to provide a variety of support to their employees
5. Promote community buy-in and ownership through local partnerships

Initiative Overview

Student Response

University Response

YourCanGoBack.org

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