A Message from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

What You Need to Know about the Indiana College Core

What is a Competency?

Guiding a Student Through Earning the Indiana College Core

Overview of Dual Credit in Indiana

Indiana’s E-Transcript

The Impact of Early College Credit on Student Persistence and Attainment

Student, Parent & Educator Testimonials

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As your student’s school counselor, I understand that cost is a major factor in your decision regarding their plans after graduation.

A key factor to saving money on your student’s college education is going to be their enrollment in dual credit classes that fulfill the Indiana College Core. The Indiana College Core is 30 credits of general education courses that can be easily transferred to public colleges or universities in Indiana. Students who earn the College Core may have to take additional general education courses in college depending on their chosen degree major, but taking these classes in high school is much more affordable than taking them in college: Students can earn one year of college credit through the Indiana College Core for $750 or less.

By earning these credits now, students can get a head start on their degree and be even better prepared for college. What’s more, students who complete the Indiana College Core can earn up to a year of college credit, enabling them to graduate early, add a minor, study abroad, start graduate school earlier and more.

To ensure that your student has the best opportunity for an affordable college education, I strongly encourage you and your student to explore this beneficial resource. Please reach out to me with any questions.

Use this language as a starting point to educate students and parents about the Indiana College Core and why they should consider this option.

INDIANA COLLEGE CORE

Did you know that students can get a head start on college while in high school? The Indiana College Core allows high school students to earn up to a year of college credits at all of Indiana's public colleges and universities, as well as some private institutions, at a fraction of the cost. Students who earn the Indiana College Core can have the opportunity to graduate college early, add a minor, study abroad, start graduate school early and more. To learn more about the Indiana College Core and requirements for completion, reach out to your school counselor.
Indiana College Core Course Offering List Example

Use this example from Floyd Central High School as you develop your school’s course offerings list. Remember that your high school’s courses and primary postsecondary partner may be different than Floyd Central High School’s.

Indiana College Core Course Offering List Template

Use this template and work with your primary postsecondary provider to create your school’s course offerings list. This will be helpful as you work with students to develop their four-year plans. If a student is unsure of their plans after graduation but they still want to earn the Core, have them explore the course offerings list and pick courses that interest them.
FAQs

What is the Indiana College Core?
The Indiana College Core is an innovative program offered by the State of Indiana that allows high school students to earn 30 general education credits that can be transferred as a block to any public college or university in Indiana, as well as some private institutions. In other words, students who earn it in high school may already be finished with their first year of college when they graduate. For more information about dual credit and credit transfer in Indiana, visit TransferIN.net.

What are the benefits of the Indiana College Core?
There are many benefits to completing the Indiana College Core. Completing the courses will cost $750 or less.

The Core also helps to prepare students for the rigors of college, giving them the confidence they need to persist in education beyond high school. Approximately 94% of students who earned credit through the Indiana College Core went on to attend college. While in college, 70% of Indiana College Core earners did not require any remedial learning in math or English, completed all the courses they took in the first year of college and continued to their second year of college.

Finally, because the Indiana College Core represents up to a year of college credit, students who complete it have the opportunity to earn their credential or degree faster, add another major or minor, study abroad, start graduate school early and more.
FAQs

Share this resource with students and parents who are considering pursuing the Indiana College Core to answer their questions about the program.

Is it expensive to complete the Indiana College Core?

The cost of one year of college credit through the Indiana College Core costs $750 or less. The approximate cost to students before factoring in financial aid is between $4,256-$5,736 at two-year, public institutions for the same amount of credits. At four-year, public institutions, it’s between $7,207 and $10,533. Taking these classes will save families thousands of dollars.

Does my student have to go to a four-year college after completing the Indiana College Core?

No. Depending on the college or university with which the student decides to complete the Indiana College Core, credits can be applied toward a two-year (associate) or four-year (bachelor’s) degree.

Additionally, these credits do not need to be applied to a program immediately following the completion of high school. While it differs by institution, many will accept credits that are multiple years old. However, there is a risk of the course not being accepted for certain requirements, and degree programs may evolve.

How do I know if my student’s school offers classes that count toward the Indiana College Core?

To see if your institution offers classes that count toward the Indiana College Core, contact your student’s school counselor.

What does my student have to do to complete the Indiana College Core?

A student must fulfill the Indiana College Core requirements as outlined by the Indiana College Core Framework at the higher education institution they’re enrolled in with a minimum of 30 credits and a grade point average (GPA) no lower than a 2.0. For additional guidance, check out TransferIN’s Indiana College Core FAQs.

Once my student completes the Indiana College Core, can they transfer the credits to any secondary educational institution?

The 30 college credits of general education acquired by the completion of the Indiana College Core can be transferred as a block to any public and some private institutions in Indiana. In order for your student to confirm they earned the Core, they need to request their college transcripts from all higher education institutions with which they have earned credit. These transcripts must be sent to the primary postsecondary provider that is awarding the Indiana College Core. Speak to your student’s school counselor for assistance with the transfer process. You will have to abide by the varying transfer policies among these secondary educational institutions.
In 2018, Hoosier students saved about $82 million in college tuition costs because of dual credit programs. Learn how you can save money on college tuition through the Indiana College Core.

The cost of college is a major factor for students in deciding whether or not to pursue higher education. The Indiana College Core can help families save thousands of dollars and make the opportunity for higher education possible.

Going to college can be expensive, but with the Indiana College Core, students can earn 1 year of college credit for less than $750 while in high school. Learn more about how to get a start on your college education.

Entering college with existing course credits opens the door to earlier graduation, more room in your schedule to complete additional minors or areas of study and early access to higher level coursework. Learn more about the Indiana College Core.

Consider sharing this social media content with your school’s marketing team to promote the Indiana College Core, and don’t forget to share from your personal accounts! All of these posts fit within Twitter’s character limit.