



SCHOLAR

SUCCESS GUIDE

GRADE 10

A program of the **Indiana Commission for Higher Education**



FREE TRAINING FOR

SCHOLAR PARENTS.

YOU WANT THE BEST for your child, and you understand that completing education beyond high school will give him or her more opportunities, higher earnings and a better quality of life. Every year the 21st Century Scholarship makes it possible for thousands of young Hoosiers to dream big, afford college and achieve their goals.

WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK SO YOU CAN MOVE FORWARD.

Your Next Step is here to support Hoosiers like you. Whether you need help finding a job, learning new skills, furthering your education or securing emergency aid to get back on your feet, Your Next Step starts here. Visit YourNextStepIN.org to connect to:

- **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Engage with resources to find a new job, explore new careers and get advice from career coaches ready to help you navigate your next step.
- **EDUCATION AND TRAINING:** Learn about opportunities to complete your high school diploma or earn a short-term certificate or college degree, including the Next Level Jobs Workforce Ready Grant, which pays full tuition for short-term, high-value certificates in: Advanced Manufacturing; Building and Construction; Health and Life Sciences; Information Technology and Business Services; and Transportation and Logistics. To learn more about qualifying programs, visit NextLevelJobs.org today.
- **OTHER SUPPORT:** Connect to resources to assist you and your family with unemployment insurance, healthcare access, local childcare, food assistance, housing support and more.

Whether Hoosiers are ready to start a new career, looking to advance their education or skills, or are seeking basic financial help and support, Indiana has their back so they can move forward. Connect to resources at YourNextStepIn.org.

10 PARENTS of Scholars

As a 21st Century Scholar, your child must successfully complete the Scholar Success Program.

What is the Scholar Success Program?

The Scholar Success Program helps prepare your child for college and career success while staying on track to earn and maintain their 21st Century Scholarship by using ScholarTrack. The 21st Century Scholarship helps pay tuition, or the cost of attending classes, at Indiana colleges and universities.

What is ScholarTrack?

ScholarTrack is a tool that Scholars use to track their completion of the Scholar Success Program. In high school, each grade has different required program activities that need to be completed by June 30 of that school year. Learn more about the Scholar Success Program and create a ScholarTrack account with your child using the QR code below!

Visit ScholarTrack



<https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars>

How can I help my Scholar?

Read through this guide with your Scholar and make a plan together for finishing this year's activities.

21st CENTURY SCHOLAR PLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

As a 21st Century Scholar, you have taken the Scholar Pledge to meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Complete the Scholar Success Program in high school and in college, which includes activities each year to help you stay on track for college and career success. The chart below shows the 12 activities that you must complete by high school graduation.
- ✓ Graduate from a state-accredited high school with a minimum of a Core 40 diploma and a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- ✓ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 15 as a high school senior and each year thereafter until you graduate from college.
- ✓ Apply to an eligible Indiana college as a high school senior, and enroll in college as a full-time student within one year of high school graduation.
- ✓ Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards established by your college.
- ✓ Complete 30 credit hours each year you are in college to stay on track toward earning your degree on time.
- ✓ Do not use illegal drugs, commit a crime or delinquent act or consume alcohol before reaching the legal drinking age.
- ✓ All grade-level activities must be completed by June 30 following the end of the school year.

The Scholar Success Program includes activities that will help you stay on track for college and career success.



GRADE	REQUIRED ACTIVITIES		
09	Create a Graduation Plan ¹	Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity	Watch "Paying for College 101"
10	Take a Career Interests Assessment	Get Workplace Experience ²	Watch "Estimate Your College Costs"
11	Visit a College Campus	Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT or SAT)	Search for Scholarships ³
12	Submit Your College Application	Watch "College Success 101"	File Your FAFSA

1. Plan should be updated annually to keep students on track for high school graduation and college admission.
 2. Includes job shadowing, internship, part-time employment, interviewing a professional or related experience linked to a student's career aspirations.
 3. Includes any additional scholarship opportunities beyond the 21st Century Scholarship.

10

GRADE 10 CHECKLIST

What steps must you take now to achieve your goals?

In 10th grade, your Scholar Success Program requirements will keep you on the right track as you take a career interests assessment, get workplace experience and watch the "Estimating Your College Costs" video.

On the next few pages, we'll walk you through each of the steps and direct you to resources to help you check them off your list and continue on your way to success!



Take a Career Interests Assessment

Find out how your interests and skills match up with specific career fields.



Get Workplace Experience

Learn more about career fields and specific careers that interest you through job shadowing, a part-time job or internship or by interviewing a professional.



Watch the "Estimating Your College Costs 101" Video

Find out what costs are involved in going to college and learn how to calculate how much money you and your family may need to put toward your college education.

STAY ON TRACK WITH SCHOLARTRACK

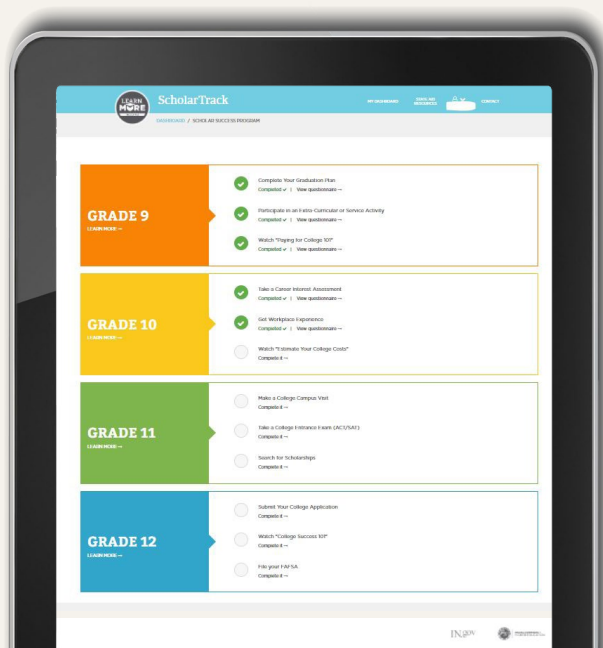
ScholarTrack is an online tool that will guide you through the Scholar Success Program. You'll be able to manage your progress throughout high school and college and find resources to help you complete the requirements.

Keep your contact information updated

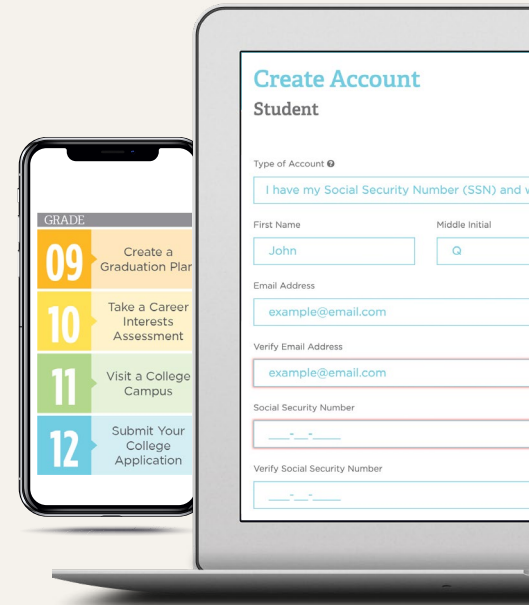
Each year, you will receive information and resources to help you stay on track. If your contact information changes or you change schools, log in to your ScholarTrack account and make the necessary updates.

Don't have a computer?

If you do not have a computer with internet access at home, use a computer at school, a public library, friend's house or talk to a parent or teacher/counselor for help finding internet access. ScholarTrack is also available on your smartphone.



GET STARTED ON SCHOLARTRACK



ScholarTrack.IN.gov

GET STARTED

Go to **ScholarTrack.IN.gov**. Register for an account and select "I am a student." Students should be prepared to enter their name, date of birth, email address and Social Security Number (SSN) or Scholar ID.

CREATE AN ACCOUNT

Students can create a full or limited account. Full accounts, which require a SSN, grant access to all of ScholarTrack. Limited accounts, which require a Scholar ID, only grant access to the Scholar Success Program. Upgrade to a full account by adding a SSN at any time.

START TRACKING

From the dashboard, select "Scholar Success Program" under the "State Aid Resources" tab and complete the required Scholar Success Program activities in each grade of high school.

10 Take a Career Interests Assessment

In 10th grade, exploring your interests can help you prepare for college and achieve your career goals.

What is a career interests assessment and why is it important?

A career interests assessment is similar to a personality test. First, you'll be asked questions about activities and hobbies that interest you and your future goals. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers here. Then, after you answer all the questions, the assessment identifies career options that align with your interests and goals.

Once you have an idea of what careers you may be interested in, take some time to research the type of post-high school education you'll need.

Types of Education After High School

The 21st Century Scholarship covers up to a bachelor's degree, but you can get additional education right after college or further down the road.

Associate
2 years beyond a high school diploma

Bachelor's
4 years beyond a high school diploma

Master's
2-3 years beyond a Bachelor's degree

Doctorate
3-5 years beyond a Master's degree

Get started

The easiest way for you to learn about your career interests is by using Indiana Career Explorer, a free tool provided by the State of Indiana to help you with college and career planning.

- 1. LOG IN** to your ScholarTrack account at **ScholarTrack.IN.gov** and select "Scholar Success Program" under the "State Aid Resources" tab.
- 2. CLICK** on the "Take a Career Interests Assessment" box and follow the steps to access the Indiana Career Explorer website.
- 3. TAKE** the assessment labeled "Career Interests Assessment" to complete the requirement.

Complete the requirement



<https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars>

Did you know?

As you learn new things in high school, your interests may change. Throughout high school, you can come back to the **Career Interests Assessment** and stay on track to complete the education right for your career.

10

Get Workplace Experience

Getting workplace experience will help you better understand what a particular job or workplace is like, as well as valuable lessons about time management and how to act in a professional environment.

Types of Workplace Experience



Job shadowing: Spending a day or part of the day observing someone who works in a career field you find interesting.



Informational interview: Ask a professional in a field you're interested in questions to learn more about their career and what education and training they needed to get to where they are.



Internship: Real-world, hands-on experience in a role related to your career interests and goals. Visit WorkandLearnIndiana.com to start your internship search.



Part-time employment: Part-time workplace experience, whether it's related to your career interests or not, provides important skills.

Get started

- 1. LOG IN** to your ScholarTrack account at **ScholarTrack.IN.gov** and select "Scholar Success Program" under the "State Aid Resources" tab.
- 2. CLICK** on "Get Workplace Experience" and preview the questions you'll need to answer about your workplace experience.

Complete the requirement



<https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars>

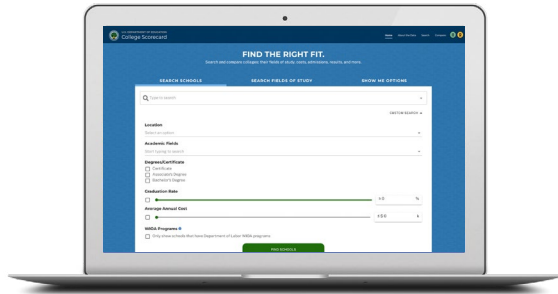
Always keep in mind that you are a student first and schoolwork should be your number one priority. Learn more about your options at LearnMoreIndiana.org/career/get-experience.

10 Watch the “Estimating Your College Costs” Video

Watch the “Estimating Your College Costs” video to learn how to calculate how much money you and your family may need to contribute toward your college education.

Estimating and comparing college costs

College may be more attainable than you think. The “Estimating Your College Costs” video will help you determine how much money you and your family may need to contribute toward your college education using the College Scorecard.



Compare college costs with the
College Scorecard



CollegeScorecard.ed.gov

List of 21st Century Scholars
eligible colleges and universities



Scholars.IN.gov/eligible-colleges

Get started

1. **LOG IN** to your ScholarTrack account at **ScholarTrack.IN.gov** and click “Watch ‘Estimating Your College Costs.’”

Complete the requirement



<https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars>

Covering additional costs with a CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan

Consider opening a bank account or tax-free Indiana CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings Plan (CollegeChoiceDirect.com). Here are some ways to maximize your savings with a 529 Plan:

TAX BENEFITS. Earnings on your investments and withdrawals for tuition, room and board, books, computers and other qualified expenses are tax-free. Indiana residents who contribute may also qualify for a 20% state tax credit of up to \$1,000 each year!

AUTOMATIC DEPOSITS. It’s quick and easy to set up a regular investment from a bank account or direct deposit from your paycheck. The minimum contribution is just \$10, and every dollar saved now is one not borrowed and repaid in the future.

DO THE MATH. With Ugift, anyone can help save for a loved one’s education expenses. Grandparents, other family members, and friends can give the gift of education for special occasions or whenever they want.

RESOURCES

School Counselors

They have been through the process before, like you, and can connect you to the assistance you need. The first people you can turn to for help are your school counselors.

Contact Scholars.IN.gov

Website: [Scholars.IN.gov/students/high-school/10th-grade](https://scholars.in.gov/students/high-school/10th-grade).

Phone: 888-528-4719

Email: Scholars@che.IN.gov

Regional Outreach Coordinators:
[Scholars.IN.gov/contact-us](https://scholars.in.gov/contact-us)


Learn More Indiana

Learn More Indiana has answers to your questions about planning, preparing and paying for college completion and career success. Visit LearnMoreIndiana.org to get started.


Social Media

Follow us on social media for updates and post-high school education and career resources.

 Facebook.com/LearnMoreIN

 [@LearnMoreIndiana](https://www.instagram.com/LearnMoreIndiana)

 Twitter.com/LearnMoreIN

 [@learnmoreindiana](https://www.tiktok.com/@learnmoreindiana)

 YouTube.com/LearnMoreIN

FAQS

How do I maintain the Scholar Pledge and keep my scholarship?

To maintain eligibility for your scholarship, you must meet the following requirements:

- Complete the Scholar Success Program in high school and in college, which includes activities each year to help you stay on track for college and career success. High school activities should be completed by June 30 of your senior year.
- Graduate from a state-accredited high school with a minimum of a Core 40 diploma and a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 15 as a high school senior and each year thereafter until you graduate from college.
- Apply to an eligible Indiana college as a high school senior, and enroll in college full time within one year of high school graduation.
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards established by your college.
- Complete 30 credit hours each year you are in college to stay on track toward earning your degree on time.
- Do not use illegal drugs, commit a crime or delinquent act, or consume alcohol before reaching the legal drinking age.

What should I do if I change schools or my contact information changes?

It's important that you receive notifications and updates from the 21st Century Scholars program to make sure you're on track to complete the requirements in high school and in college. Update your information in your ScholarTrack account at ScholarTrack.IN.gov.

Do I have to file the FAFSA every year in high school?

No. You must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) during your senior or last year of high school and each year (minus your last year) that you are enrolled in college.

If I graduate early, can I still use the 21st Century Scholarship?

Yes. If you plan to graduate following your junior year, you need to notify your school counselor so they can inform the 21st Century Scholars program. You should complete all 12 high school Scholar Success Program activities, including filing the FAFSA by April 15 of your junior year. If you plan to graduate early, learn about the Mitch Daniels Early Graduation Scholarship at LearnMoreIndiana.org/statefinancialaid.

Can I use my scholarship to pay for dual-credit classes while in high school?

No. The scholarship is only available once you have graduated high school.

If my GPA falls below 2.5 for a semester, will I lose the scholarship?

You are still eligible for your scholarship as long as your cumulative GPA is at least 2.5 on a 4 point scale at the time of graduation. A cumulative GPA is the average of all your grades during all your semesters of high school.

Can I receive the scholarship if I complete a high school equivalency exam (like a GED or TASC) or complete home school?

No. You must graduate with at least a Core 40 diploma from an eligible high school recognized by the Indiana Department of Education.

What happens if I don't complete the Scholar Success Program on time?

You must verify you've completed the three grade-specific activities via ScholarTrack by June 30 of each academic year. Your scholarship cannot be awarded until all activities are complete.

Am I still eligible for my scholarship if I take a gap year?

Yes, but you must be enrolled in a post-secondary education institution no later than a year after you graduate high school.



I PLEDGE to graduate with a minimum of a Core 40 diploma from a state-accredited Indiana high school. I will complete the Scholar Success Program in high school and in college that will help me stay on track for college and career success. I will achieve a cumulative high school GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. I will not use illegal drugs or alcohol or commit a crime or delinquent act. I will apply for admission to an eligible Indiana college my senior year and apply on time for student financial aid. I aim **TO SUCCEED.**

JULY/2022



INDIANA COMMISSION for
HIGHER EDUCATION