



# **SCHOLAR SUCCESS GUIDE**

## **GRADE 10**

A program of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education



## FREE RESOURCES FOR SCHOLAR PARENTS

**YOU** want the best for your child, so we've got your back.

Your Next Step is there to support Hoosiers like you. Whether you are ready to start a new career, looking to advance your education or skills, or are seeking basic financial aid help and support, we're here for you. Visit [YourNextStepIN.org](http://YourNextStepIN.org) to get connected to:

- **Employment Opportunities**
- **Career Advice and Coaching**
- **Other support**

Looking for more education? You may qualify for the Adult Student Grant to go back to school part time, or you can earn a short-term certificate through the Workforce Ready Grant. The Workforce Ready Grant pays full tuition for short-term, high-value certificates in:

- **Advanced Manufacturing**
- **Building and Construction**
- **Health and Life Sciences**
- **Information Technology**
- **Business Services**
- **Transportation and Logistics**

To learn more about the Workforce Ready Grant and eligible programs, visit [NextLevelJobs.org](http://NextLevelJobs.org). To learn more about the Adult Student Grant, visit [www.che.in.gov/adultstudentgrant](http://www.che.in.gov/adultstudentgrant).



# 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 (SSP) is a set of **12** activities for your child to complete in high school designed to prepare them for college and career success and keep them on track for their 21st Century Scholarship.

## ***What is ScholarTrack?***

ScholarTrack is the tool for Scholars to track completion of SSP activities. These activities must be completed and logged in by June 30 of your child's graduation year. Learn more about the SSP activities, and create a ScholarTrack account with your child using the QR code:

**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 <sup>1</sup>	Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity	Watch "Paying for College 101"
10	Take a Career Interests Assessment	Get Workplace Experience <sup>2</sup>	Watch "Estimate Your College Costs"
11	Visit a College Campus	Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT or SAT)	Search for Scholarships <sup>3</sup>
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.

## 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 specific careers that interest you through job shadowing, part-time jobs, internships or by interviewing a professional.



### Watch the “Estimating Your College Costs 101” Video

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

# STAY ON TRACK WITH SCHOLARTRACK

ScholarTrack is the online tool to guide you through the SSP. You can log your activities 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 or school information changes, 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 family member or teacher/counselor for help finding internet access. ScholarTrack is also available on your smartphone.



### GRADE 9

LEARN MORE →



Complete Your Graduation Plan  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Participate in an Extra-Curricular or Service Activity  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Watch "Paying for College 101"  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →

### GRADE 10

LEARN MORE →



Take a Career Interest Assessment  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Get Workplace Experience  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Watch "Estimate Your College Costs"  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →

### GRADE 11

LEARN MORE →



Make a College Campus Visit  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT/SAT)  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Search for Scholarships  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →

### GRADE 12

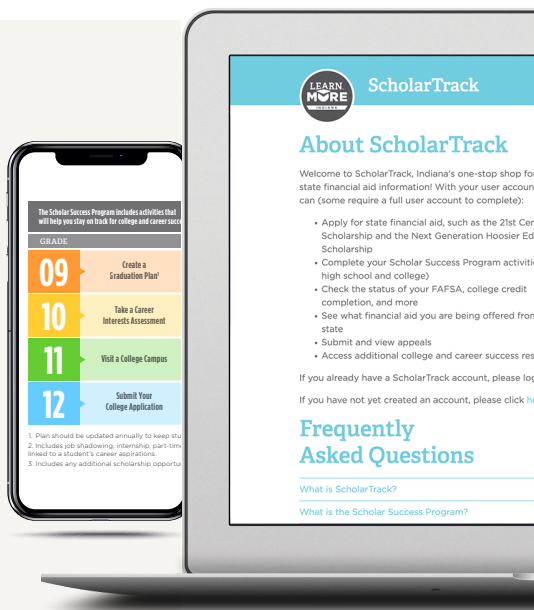


Submit Your College Application  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →



Watch "College Success 101"  
Completed ✓ | View questionnaire →

# GET STARTED ON SCHOLARTRACK



**ScholarTrack.IN.gov**

## GET STARTED

Go to [ScholarTrack.IN.gov](https://ScholarTrack.IN.gov). Register for an account and select “I am a student.” Students should be ready to enter their name, date of birth, email address and Social Security Number (SSN), Student Testing Number (STN), or Scholar ID.

## CREATE AN ACCOUNT

Students can create a full or limited account.

1. Full account – Requires a SSN or STN and allows full ScholarTrack access.
2. Limited account – Requires a Scholar ID and grants access to log SSP activities. You can upgrade to a full account at any time.

## START TRACKING

Check your email to make your password. From the dashboard, select “Checklist,” and then click on “10th Grade.”

# 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 like a personality test. You'll be asked questions about activities that interest you and about your future goals. Remember to answer these questions as truthfully as possible. After answering the questions, you'll be given career options that may 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** select “Checklist” on the homepage.
- 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 understand what a particular job or workplace is like, as well as teach you valuable lessons about time management and how to act in a professional environment.*

## *Types of Workplace Experience*



**Job shadowing:** Spending a day observing someone who works in the field you're interested in.



**Informational interview:** Asking a professional in the 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 “Checklist” on the homepage.
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](https://learnmoreindiana.org/career/get-experience)**.

# Watch the “Estimating Your College Costs” Video

*“Estimating Your College Costs” will teach you and your family how to calculate the amount of money you 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 figure out how much money you and your family may need to contribute toward your college education using the College Scorecard.

## ***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:

***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.’”
- 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>

**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*

The first people you can turn to for any help you may need are your school counselors.

## *Scholars.IN.gov*

**Website:** <https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars>

**Phone:** 888-528-4719

**Email:** [Scholars@che.IN.gov](mailto:Scholars@che.IN.gov)

### **Regional Outreach Coordinators:**

<https://learnmoreindiana.org/about-us/contact>

## *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**



**X.com/LearnMoreIN**



**YouTube.com/LearnMoreIN**

# FAQS

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

See the 21st Century Scholar Pledge Requirements on page 2.

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

Log in to your ScholarTrack account and make the necessary changes so you do not miss notifications and updates from the 21st Century Scholars program.

## *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 last year of high school and each year (minus your last year) that you are to be enrolled in college.

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

Yes! If you plan to graduate early, notify your school counselor so they can inform the 21st Century Scholars program. You must complete all 12 SSP activities, including filing the FAFSA by April 15 of your last year in high school. If you plan to graduate early, learn about the Mitch Daniels Early Graduation Scholarship at [learnmoreindiana.org/financial-aid/scholarships](https://learnmoreindiana.org/financial-aid/scholarships)

***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 if your overall GPA is at least 2.5 on a 4-point scale at the time of your graduation.

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

No. You must receive 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 SSP on time?***

You must verify that you've completed all 12 SSP activities by June 30 of your graduation 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 postsecondary 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/2023**



**INDIANA COMMISSION** for  
**HIGHER EDUCATION**