



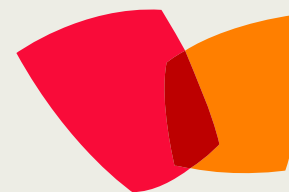
**Investing in Indiana's
Adult Workers:
Increasing Financial Aid
Opportunities**

**Presented by the
Indiana Institute for
Working Families,
a program of the
Indiana Community
Action Association.**



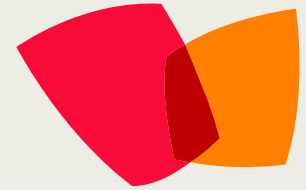
**Sponsored by
Lumina Foundation
for Education**

**Policy Recommendations to Increase
Access to Postsecondary Education
For Adult Workers in Indiana**



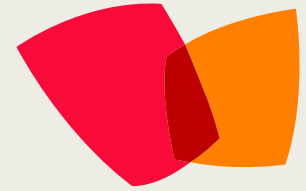
I. Remove barriers within the State's financial aid system which prevent adult students from qualifying for financial aid.

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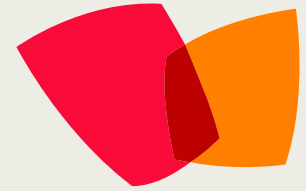
1. Increase the annual allocation to the Part-Time Grant program in order to provide more financial aid dollars to an increasing number of adult students.

Remove barriers within the State's financial aid system which prevent adult students from qualifying for financial aid



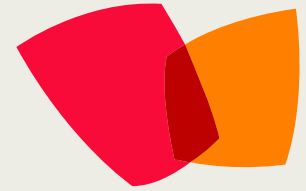
2. Increase the availability of curriculum designs, supportive services, and program offerings – including remedial course offerings – to adult students in formats that are attractive and beneficial to working adults in order to promote access.

Remove barriers within the State's financial aid system which prevent adult students from qualifying for financial aid



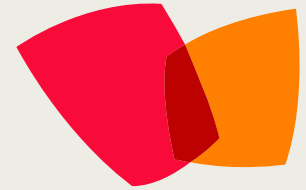
3. Eliminate the eight semester rule for part-time students to allow sufficient time to complete a four-year program when attending on a part-time basis.

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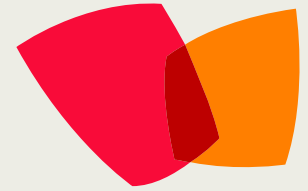
4. Expand the number of certificate programs eligible to receive state financial aid dollars.

Remove barriers within the State's financial aid system which prevent adult students from qualifying for financial aid



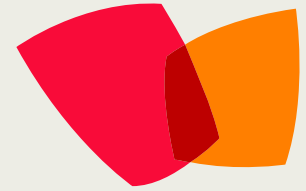
5. Eliminate Indiana's March 10th application deadline for filing the FAFSA to receive state financial aid.

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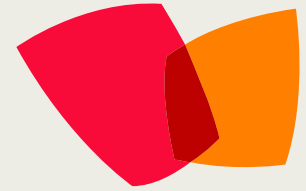
6. Adopt income eligibility guidelines, similar to those of the 21st Century Scholars Program, to determine financial need for independent students.

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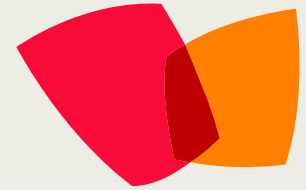
***II. Increase the number of Hoosier
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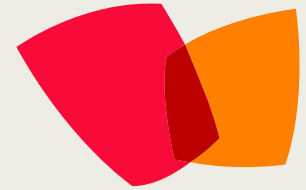
7. Set specific goals and strategies for increasing the number of Hoosier adults who possess postsecondary credentials.

**Increase the number of
Hoosier adults enrolled in
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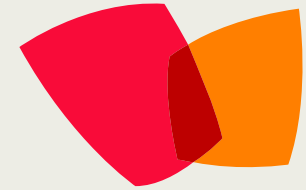
8. Expand the Learn More Indiana statewide outreach effort to focus intensely on the needs of adult students and the financial aid application process.

**Increase the number of
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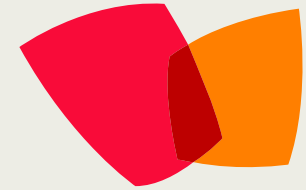
9. Conduct a statewide marketing and outreach campaign targeting adults in Indiana who lack postsecondary credentials to increase postsecondary enrollment.

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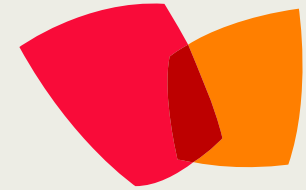
III. Increase retention and completion rates of Indiana students by providing supportive services, incentives, and programs designed for adult students.

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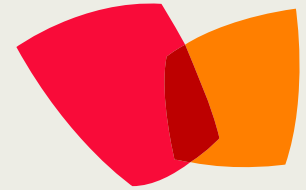
10. Allow financial aid dollars to be used to provide wrap around supportive services for adult students.

Increase retention and completion rates of Indiana students by providing supportive services, incentives, and programs designed for adult students.



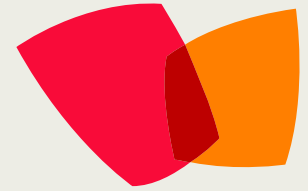
11. Create incentive programs to promote persistence and completion rates of Indiana students.

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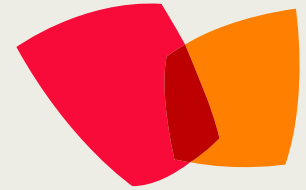
***IV. Increase educational
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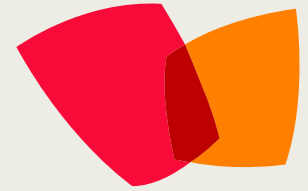
***12. Provide education and training
assistance for Indiana's
unemployed workers.***

Increase educational opportunities for low-income adults



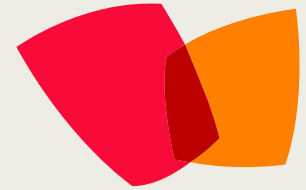
13. Encourage employers to offer Lifelong Learning Accounts (LiLAs) to assist their employees in financing educational and skills attainment opportunities.

**Increase educational
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low-income adults**



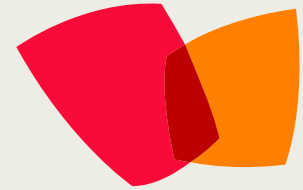
14. Use TANF funds to provide financial aid to low-income students to pay for non-tuition costs such as books, child care, living expenses, and transportation.

Increase educational opportunities for low-income adults



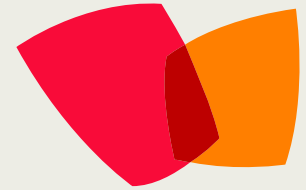
15. Conduct a statewide educational campaign designed to encourage more low-income adults to participate in the State's Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program to use the funds for postsecondary education and training.

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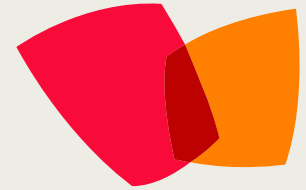
***V. Improve the collection of data and
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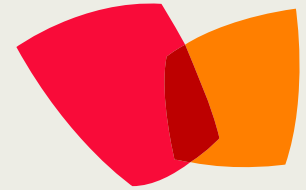
16. Improve the data sharing and matching capabilities of the ICHE and SSACI databases so that the effectiveness of state financial aid dollars can be determined.

Improve the collection of data and information on postsecondary education attendees



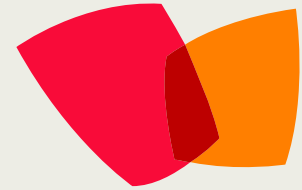
17. Improve the reliability and accuracy of ICHE's database by requiring that all Indiana institutions of higher education that receive state financial aid dollars report data annually to ICHE.

Improve the collection of data and information on postsecondary education attendees



18. Integrate data from SSACI into Indiana's Workforce Intelligence System (IWIS).

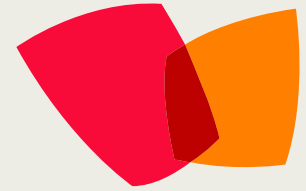
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Conclusion:

- The remedy for educating the state's workforce does not lie solely among 18-24 year old college students.
- The barriers to adult higher education include cost, aspiration, remediation, time, family and work obligations, and financial aid policies.
- States throughout the nation are creatively using monies to address the educational attainment of its workforce.
- Indiana should adopt policies and implement national best practice models that will increase the educational attainment levels of Hoosier workers.

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Conclusion: Ultimately, a skilled and educated workforce will increase Indiana's economic competitiveness, bolster its economy, improve its communities, and increase the quality of life for all Hoosier families and children.