Program Brought to You By

INDIANA INSTITUTE FOR WORKING FAMILIES





Jennings County College for Success Coalition



Know2Go Adult Student Event – Jennings County

June 16, 2011

Overview of Event

- Welcome and Introductions
- •The Self-Sufficiency Wage and how to calculate it for your family
- •The Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs (State and Local Levels)
- •My Skills, My Future: Assess your skills and interests
- •Certificate Training and Career Pathways
- •How to "Put Your Hands on Some Cash," for education and training
 - Benefits.gov
 - Alternative Resources, Tax Returns, and Tax Credits
 - Resources available through the Indiana Department of Workforce Development
 - FAFSA Forms: How to fill them out!
 - Federal Grant Opportunities
 - State Grant Opportunities
 - Student Loans: How to use this resource well, and when it should be avoided!
- •Questions
- Adjourn

Jennings County College for Success Coalition

Supported By:







- Purpose
- Members
- Resource in Community for Students and Parents
- How to Contact Them?



The Self-Sufficiency Standard

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard

 Published by the Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of IN-CAA

 Measures how much a family of a certain composition in a given geographic location needs to meet their basic needs without government or private subsides.

• The Standard is calculated for 70 family types in each of Indiana's 92 counties.

• Can be used in a number of ways including: a benchmark for evaluation and program improvement; as a guideline for determining eligibility and need for services; as a counseling tool; as a public education tool; and as a guideline for wage-setting and living wage campaigns.

• Report available at:

http://www.incap.org/documents/FINAL%202009%20Indiana%20SSS%20R eport%2010-26-09.pdf

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

 In addition to the report the Institute is updating the Self-Sufficiency Calculator which is a interactive version of the Standard which includes all 70 family types for all 92 counties

Can link it to your web site



•The calculator is available at: <u>www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org</u>

• Expanded capabilities which include linking to jobs and education and that pay those wages will be available in 2011

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

INDIANA INSTITUTE F WORKING FAMILIES	}	ME /	BOUT	us	RESOURCE
Indiana Self-Suffici	ency St	andar	d Ca	alcul	ator
Enter your profile below to calculate	your Self-Suffic	iency Star	dard w	age.	
The Standard defines children as:					
🗸 Infants as 2 yrs. old and under					
✓ Preschoolers as 3-5 years old					
✓ Schoolage as 6-12 years old					
✓ Teenagers as 13-18 years old					
Calact Vera Caracter					
- Select Your County			_		
Select Your County					
- Select County - 💌					
- Select County - 💌 - Number of Adults					
- Select County - - Number of Adults One Adult O Two Adults Number of Children	O Preschool) Schoola	je O	Teenag	er

ALCULATE

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Below are the figures for Jennings County based on 1 Adults, 1 Preschool.

Monthly Costs

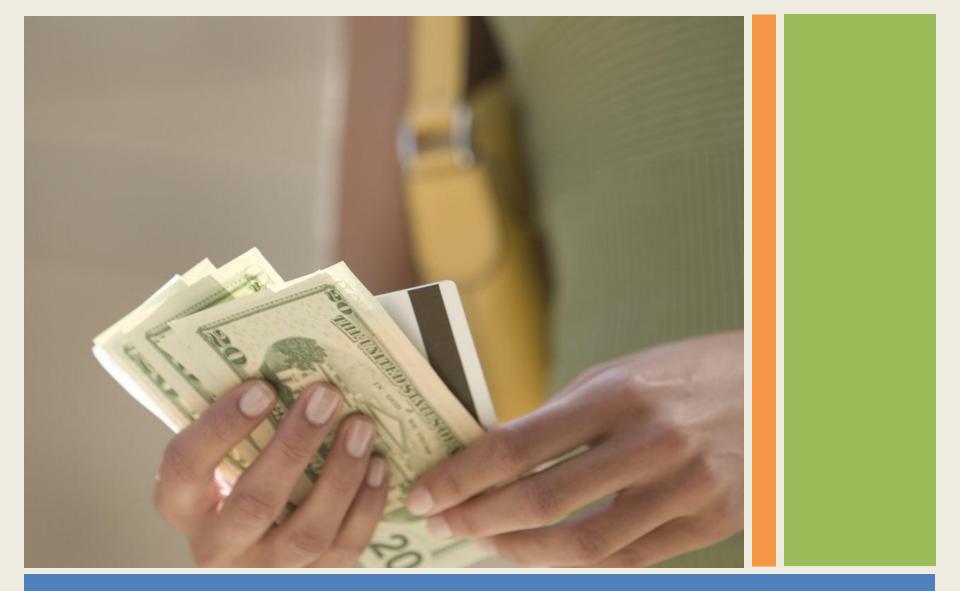
- \$638 Housing
- \$382 Child Care
- \$331 Food
- \$231 Transportation
- \$319 Health Care
- \$190 Miscellaneous
- \$292 Taxes
- \$-161 Earned Income Tax Credit (-)
- \$-73 Child Care Tax Credit (-)
- \$-83 Child Tax Credit (-)
- \$-33 Making Work Pay Tax Credit (-)

Self-Sufficiency Wage

- \$11.55 Hourly (per adult)
- \$2,033 Monthly (per adult)
- \$24,397 Annual (per household)

Self-Sufficient Wages in Jennings County

Family Type	Hourly Wage	Monthly Wage	Annual Wage
Adult	\$ 7.64	\$1,344	\$16,129
Adult + Preschooler	\$11.55	\$2,033	\$24,397
Adult +Infant & Preschooler	\$15.78	\$2,778	\$33,332
Adult + Preschooler & Schoolage	\$15.03	\$2,645	\$31,741
Adult + Schoolage & Teenager	\$12.42	\$2,185	\$26,225
2 Adults + Preschooler	\$7.48 per Adult	\$2,633	\$31,594
2 Adults + Infant & Preschooler	\$9.55 per Adult	\$3,361	\$40,332
2 Adults + Preschooler & Schoolage	\$9.12 per Adult	\$3,212	\$38, 541
2 Adults + Schoolage & Teenager	\$7.79 per Adult	\$2,742	\$32,903



The Hoosier Hot 50: Indiana's In-Demand Jobs!

How do I find which jobs pay these wages?

https://netsolutions.dwd.in.gov/hh50/



The Regional Hot 50 for this area includes the counties of: Decatur, Franklin, Dearborn, Ohio, Switzerland, Jefferson, Ripley, Jennings, Jackson, and Bartholemew.

Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	Openings Expected in 2012	Openings Expected in 2018	Education Required	2009 Average Wage
1	Construction Laborers	59	206	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$35,537
2	Registered Nurse	125	734	Associate Degree	\$53,995
3	Truck Drivers	297	990	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate/ Licensing	\$35,244
4	LPN or LVN	107	608	Certificate	\$35,555
5	Industrial Engineers	45	198	Bachelors Degree	\$76,163
6	First-Line Supervisors (Construction Trades/Extraction Workers)	38	211	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$49,171
7	Operating Engineers and Construction Equipment Operators	70	157	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Licensing	\$37,848
8	Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics	31	139	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$41,390
9	Human Resources/Labor Specialists	54	219	Bachelor's Degree	\$38,257
10	Computer Software Engineers	32	128	Bachelor's Degree	\$68,240

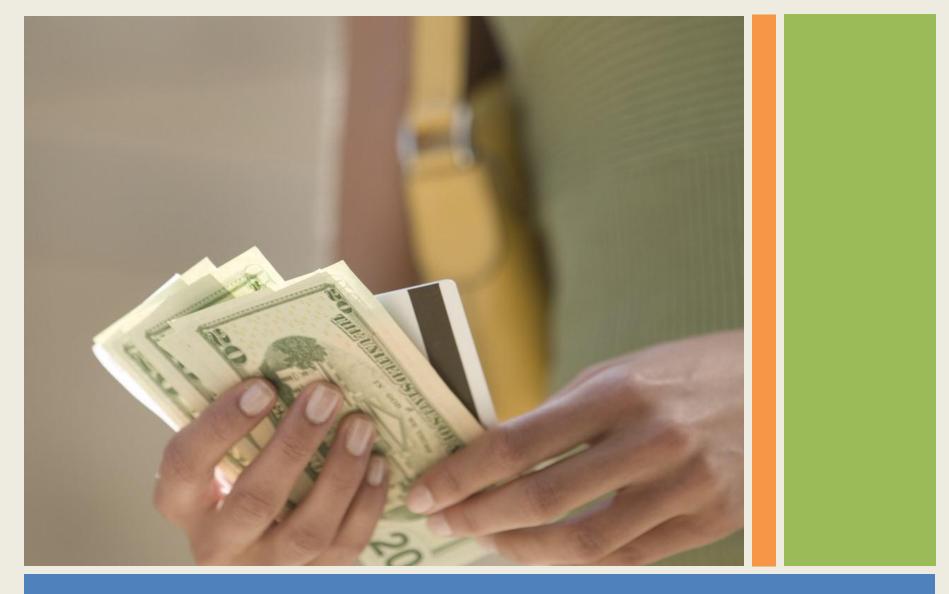
Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	Openings Expected in 2012	Openings Expected in 2018	Education Required	2009 Average Wage
11	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	148	558	Short-term on-the-Job Training/Certificate or Licensing	\$30,079
12	Carpenters	46	288	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$35,632
13	Maintenance Repair Workers	86	370	Moderate on-the-Job Training	\$35,674
14	Primary/Secondary Schoolteachers	96	1,485	Bachelor's Degree	\$45,624
15	Post-Secondary Teachers	60	288	Doctoral Degree	\$57,394
16	Bookkeeper/Accounting Clerk	74	333	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$30,808
17	Accountants and Auditors	64	284	Bachelor's Degree	\$48,347
18	Physicians and Surgeons	32	234	First Professional Degree	\$166,400
19	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	81	324	Work Experience	\$52,548
20	Mechanical Engineer	104	352	Bachelor's Degree	\$68,856

Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	Openings Expected in 2012	Openings Expected in 2018	Education Required	2009 Average Wage
21	Sales Representative- Services	57	277	Work Experience	\$38,006
22	First-Line Supervisors/Managers- Retail Sales	81	545	Associate's Degree or Work Experience	\$33,459
23	Supervisors of Personal Care and Service Workers	44	212	Work Experience	\$40,006
24	First-Line Supervisors/Managers- Office and Administrative Workers	53	330	Certificate/Associates	\$40,608
25	Cost Estimators	15	79	Bachelor's Degree	\$47,572
26	Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	22	94	Moderate on-the-Job Training	\$33,299
27	Plumbers and Pipefitters	17	71	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate/ License	\$34,003
28	Purchasing Agents	30	119	Bachelor's Degree	\$49,514
29	Managers (in General)	40	168	Long Term on-the-Job Training	\$70,272
30	Social Workers	25	163	Bachelor's Degree	\$34,587

Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	• •	Openings Expected in 2018	Education Required	2009 Average Wage
31	Computer Systems Analyst	21	70	Bachelor's Degree	\$73,712
32	Dental Hygienists	15	112	Associate Degree	\$59,260
33	Industry Machinery Mechanics	29	120	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$41,946
34	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	6	35	Bachelor's Degree	\$75,621
35	Dental Assistants	16	122	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$30,617
36	Lawyers, Judges and Related Workers	23	117	Post-Bachelor's Professional Degree	\$81,981
37	Supervisors, Building and Grounds and Maintenance Workers	26	100	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$35,448
38	Legal Support Workers	26	111	Associates	\$32,181
39	Pharmacists	11	79	Post-Bachelor's Professional Degree	\$103,966
40	Construction Managers	9	53	Long Term on-the-Job Training/ Bachelor's Degree	\$65,986

Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	Openings Expected in 2012	Openings Expected in 2018	Education Required	2009 Average Wage
41	Education Administrators	25	110	Bachelor's or Higher	\$73,269
42	Electricians	33	133	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate/ Licensing	\$49,356
43	Counselors	20	131	Bachelor's Degree	\$47,913
44	Civil Engineers	12	47	Bachelor's Degree	\$67,424
45	Physical Therapists	8	55	Bachelor's Degree	\$69,915
46	Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders (extruding, forming, pressing and compacting)	28	140	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$33,317
47	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	25	160	Associate or Bachelor's and then Academy Training	\$42,628
48	Environmental Engineers	6	22	Bachelor's Degree	\$88,416
49	Computer and Information Systems Managers	13	39	Bachelor's Degree	\$91,284
50	Financial Managers	16	81	Bachelor's Degree	\$91,763

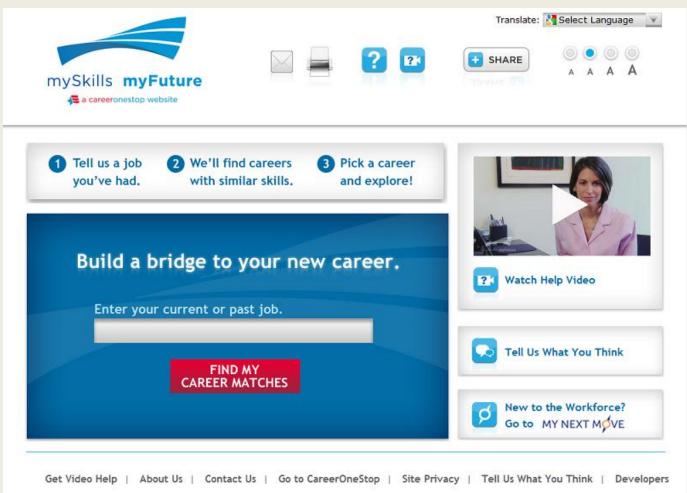
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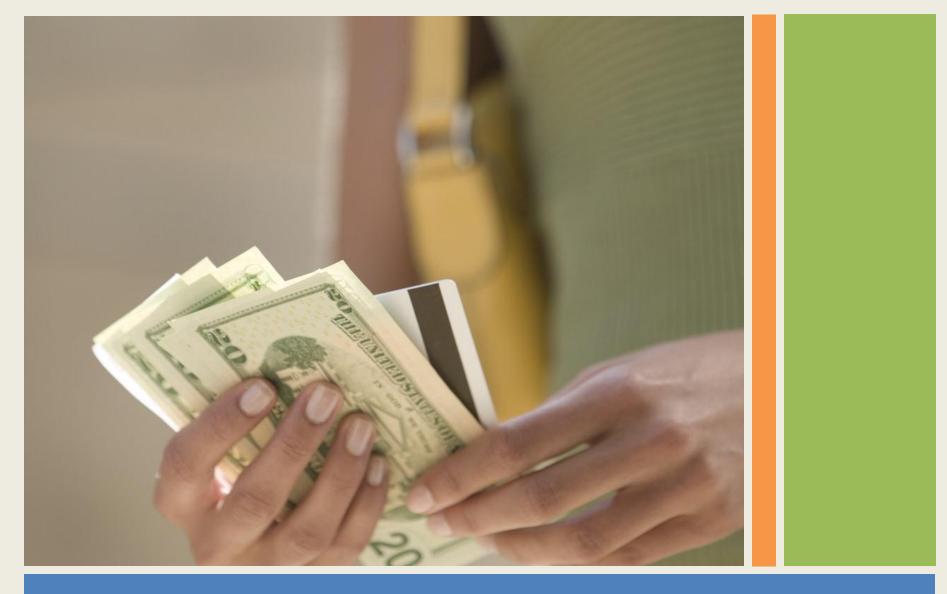
My Skills, My Future

My Skills, My Future

http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/



http://wpc.2a70.edgecastcdn.net/002A70/OverviewVideos/mySkillsmyFutureOverview_Start.flv



Certificates and Career Pathways

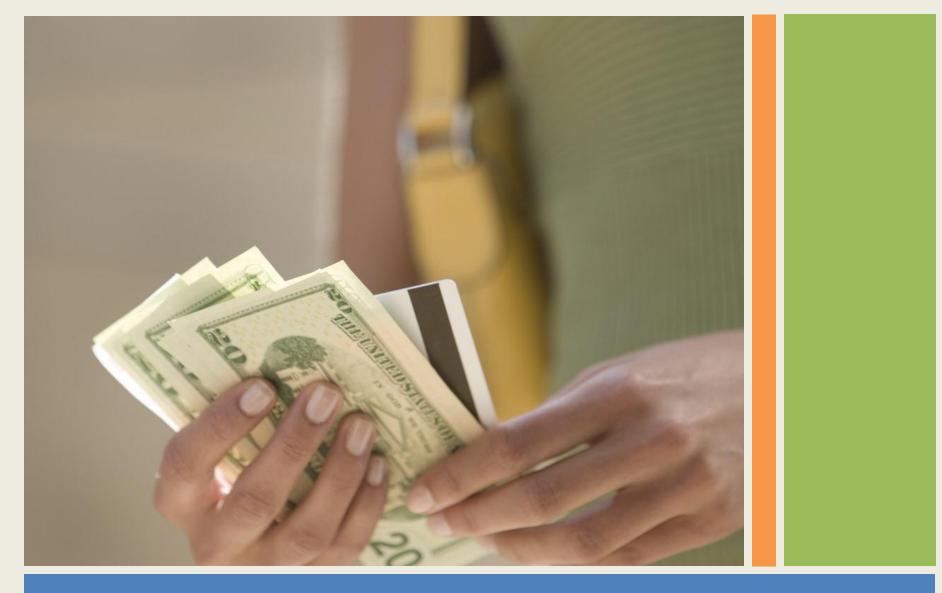
Certificate/ Short-term training

Here are some examples of shorter term training programs for the careers mentioned before. These training programs are all from WIA –eligible training providers. Training Programs with an asterix (*) may also be eligible for State Financial Aid.

Jobs	Average Wage	Program	Program Location	Length of Study
Construction Laborers	\$17.09	Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison,	1 year
Registered Nurses	\$25.96	Associate in Nursing*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison,	2 years
Truck Drivers, Heavy and	\$16.94	Truck Driver Training Licensure	Truck Driver Institute of Indiana, Inc. in Sellersburg	3 weeks
Tractor-Trailer		CDL Truck Driver Training, Class A	Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis	150 hours
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$17.09	Practical Nursing Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	\$18.20	Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison, Columbus	1 year
		Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$19.90	Production Technician Certification	Ivy Tech Community College in Lawrenceburg	140 hours
		Production Technician Certification	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	140 hours

Certificate/ Short-term training

Jobs	Average Wage	Program	Program Location	Length of Study
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	\$16.01	Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters	\$16.35	Industrial Technology Certificate	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Dental Hygienists	\$28.49	Associate in Dental Hygiene*	IUPUI	2 years
	¢20.17	Production Technician Certification	Ivy Tech Community College in Lawrenceburg	140 hours
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	hanics \$20.17	Industrial Technology Certificate	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Dental Assistants	\$14.72	Dental Assisting Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Columbus	1 year
Legal Support Workers	\$15.47	Associate in Paralegal Studies*	Ivy Tech Community College in Columbus	2 years
Electricians	\$23.73	Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators and Tenders	\$16.02	Industrial Technology Certificate*	Ivy Tech Community College in Madison	1 year
Police and Sheriff's Patrol		Associate in Public Safety*	Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis	2 years
Officers	\$20.49	Indiana State Police Training	Indiana State Police Academy in Versailles, 812-689-8011	Varies by job



Put Your Hands on Some Cash

Benefits.gov

Kathy

Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits

•Tax Returns

- As stated in the previous slides you need to complete your tax returns to complete the FASFA.
- If you itemize, may need to use previous year's tax returns for initial FASFA application, you can amend after your current year returns are completed.
- Make sure you are claiming all tax credits you are eligible for which may be able to help with college expenses!

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

• A refundable federal tax credit for working individuals and families.

• In 2010, a worker with children making at or below \$35,535 to \$43,352 is eligible and a worker without children making at or below \$13,460 is eligible.

Eligibility Requirements for the Federal EITC, Tax Year 2010				
Number of Qualifying	Individual Filer	Joint Filer	Maximum	
Children			Credit	
Zero	\$13,460	\$18,470	\$457	
One	\$35,535	\$40,545	\$3,050	
Two	\$40,363	\$45,373	\$5,036	
Three or more	\$43,352	\$48362	\$5,666	

• If person was eligible and did not claim, can claim the EITC up to three years retroactively. For family with two children this could equate to \$14,708 (for tax year 2008, 2009, and 2010).

State EITC

• Indiana has a refundable state tax credit based on 9% of the federal EITC.

Maximum Credit for State EITC, Tax Year 2010				
Number of Qualifying Children	Maximum Credit			
Zero	\$41			
One	\$274			
Two	\$453			
Three or more	\$510			

• You can also claim the state EITC up to three years retroactively. For family with two children this could equate to \$1,178 (for tax year 2008, 2009, and 2010).

How to Claim the EITC

• STATE

- Retroactively
 - Fill out Schedule IN-EIC for applicable year
 - 2009 forms available at: <u>http://www.in.gov/dor/4167.htm</u>

 Past years available at: <u>http://www.in.gov/dor/3488.htm</u>

AND

- Form IT-40X (<u>http://www.in.gov/dor/3827.htm</u>)
- Current Tax Year (2010)
 - Fill out Schedule IN-EIC with IT-40

How to Claim the EITC

- FEDERAL
 - Retroactively
 - Fill out Schedule EIC for applicable year
 (www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=150513,00.html)
 AND
 - Form 1040X, available at: <u>http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040x.pdf</u>
 - Current Tax Year (2010)
 - Fill out Schedule EIC with 1040

Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits

•Tax Credits to Claim in 2011

- American Opportunity Tax Credit \$2,500 per eligible student (which expanded and renamed the alreadyexisting Hope credit, can be claimed for tuition and certain fees you pay for higher education).
- Lifetime Learning Credit Up to \$2,000 per return, for higher education expenses.
- <u>CANNOT claim both</u> American Opportunity and Lifetime Learning Credit. <u>CANNOT claim</u> Tuition and Fees Deduction with American Opportunity or Lifetime Credit.
- Student Loan Interest Deduction Up to \$2,500
- Tuition and Fees Deduction Up to \$4,000

Alternative Financial Aid Resources

- Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)
 - \$3 to \$1 match savings program
 - Must be below 175% of FPG (\$32,465 for a family of 3 in 2011)
 - Must attend 8 hour financial literacy class
 - Can receive up to \$6,400
 - Once you met saving goal for first year \$400
 - Once you receive state match (within 45 days) can withdraw for qualified asset purchase

Alternative Financial Aid Resources

- Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) providers:
 - Human Services 812-372-8407
 - Eastside Community Center 812-376-7840
 - Community Action of Southern Indiana 812-288-6451

What are the resources

available at your local

WorkOne Center

Lissa Griffin, from WorkOne Southeast, is here to tell us more.....

FASFA Form and Key Deadlines

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA)
 - This form is required to obtain federal and state financial aid as well as to apply for student loans.
 - You can fill it out electronically or in paper format, if electronically you will first need to sign-up for a pin.
 - To fill out the form you will need your tax returns, social security number, and school codes
 - You can access the FASFA form, obtain school codes, and get more information at:

http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm

FASFA Form and Key Deadlines

• DEADLINES

- To have received financial aid from the <u>State of Indiana</u>, you must have submitted your FASFA by March 10, 2011 for the 2001-2012 school year.
- For <u>federal financial aid ONLY</u> and apply for student loans the federal deadline is June 30, 2011. If you submit the form this late you will not receive any state financial aid!
- In the future if you fill out your FAFSA prior to the March 10th deadline, you will also have until Mid-May to amend it. So even if you do not have all of your financial information file before March 10th anyway.

Federal Financial Aid and Grants

•PELL

- Considered a foundation of federal financial aid, to which aid from other federal and nonfederal sources might be added
- Need-based grant given to undergraduates based on student's EFC
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the total amount of money a student/family is supposedly able to contribute toward college costs in a given academic year according to the <u>Federal Methodology</u>
- Federal Methodology (FM)
 - Formula used to figure a student's eligibility for federal grants, loans and/or work-study programs
 - Many states use the same formula to determine a student's eligibility for state grants, and many colleges use it to award their need-based scholarships

Federal Financial Aid and Grants

•Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

- Need-based grant awarded by the institution
- Individual awards do not exceed \$4,000 per academic year
- For undergraduates with exceptional financial need
- Pell Grant recipients with the lowest expected family contributions (EFCs) will be considered first
- Just like Pell Grants, the FSEOG does not have to be repaid

•Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program

- Provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families
- Must teach for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant
- IMPORTANT: If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

•National Science & Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant)

- Available during the third and fourth years of undergraduate study (or fifth year of a five-year program) to at least half-time students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant
- Eligible Students
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen;
- be Pell Grant-eligible during the same award year;
- be enrolled at least half-time;
- be in the third or fourth year of an undergraduate degree program (or fifth year of a five-year program);
- be pursuing a major in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, engineering or a critical foreign language; or non-major single liberal arts programs, and
- have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale as of the end of the second award year and continue to maintain a 3.0 GPA that must be checked prior to the beginning of each payment period (e.g., semester)

Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant

- Student who is not eligible for a Pell Grant but whose parent or guardian was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and died as a result of service performed in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001
 - Be under 24 years old or
 - Enrolled in college at least part-time at the time of the parent's or guardian's death
 - The grant award is equal to the amount of a maximum Pell Grant for the award year – not to exceed the cost of attendance for that award year

•Jobs/Work Aid

- Federal Work Study
 - A campus-based part-time employment program which provides jobs for students who show financial need

For more details and information on the federal programs we have discussed, visit <u>www.studentaid.ed.gov</u>

Learn Where the Money Is

www.indianacollegecosts.org/learn-where-the-money-is

Indiana State Financial Aid

Requirements

To qualify for consideration for one of Indiana's full-time grants the applicant must:

- Be an Indiana resident by December 31st the year prior to applying (December 31, 2010 for the 2011-2012 school year)
- Be a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Be a high school graduate or hold a GED
- Attend, or plan to attend, an eligible college or university
- FAFSA must be received by the federal processor by March 10th and be error-free by SSACI's edit correction deadline each and every year;
- Demonstrate need based on the FAFSA

Indiana's Current Financial Aid Programs and Policies

Program	Requirements	Types of Costs Covered
Frank O'Bannon	 Attend (or plan o attend) full time (at least 12 credit hours) Be working towards your first Associate or Bachelor's Degree 	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services Exact amounts vary based on demand and funding, but this grant could pay up to 90% of your tuition.
Part-Time Grant	 Allows part-time enrollment or less Distributed on a term by term basis rather than annually The institution awards this grant 	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services. Minimum amount is \$50 per term, Maximums vary by institution
Minority Teacher/ Special Services Scholarship	 Requires full-time enrollment A minority student (defined as Black or Hispanic) seeking a teaching certification; or any student (minority and non-minority) seeking Special Education teaching certification, or Occupational or Physical Therapy certification. Agree to work in Indiana for 3 years 	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services. It pays \$4,000 annually for Minority Students, and \$1,000 annually for non-Minority Students

Current Programs cont....

Program	Requirements	Types of Costs Covered
Nursing Scholarship	 Allows part-time enrollment Agree, in writing, to work as a nurse in an Indiana health care setting for at least the first two (2) years following graduation, as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse 	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services It pays \$5,000 annually It also has a payback provision should you change majors.
Summer State Work Study Scholarship	 Have received and used an Frank O'Bannon Grant (formerly the Indiana Higher Education Grant) during the academic year prior to the summer they plan to work;\ Not be a graduating senior or graduate before August 31; and Plan to enroll in the fall following the summer that they participated in the summer work-study program 	Funds are directly awarded to the student for tuition and fees and non- tuition costs. Varies by employer
Indiana National Guard	 Allows part-time enrollment The student must be in active drilling status. The unit commander is the sole determiner of this status. This applies to each academic term Must Attend one of Indiana's 8 public institutions 	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services. Funding levels vary depending on demand.

Student Loans

An education loan is a form of financial aid that must be <u>repaid</u>, with interest.

Three Types:

- 1. Federal Student Loans- These loans are taken out in the Students name. There are two types of these loans:
 - *Subsidized* This means the government pays the interest while you are in school.
 - Unsubsidized- This means that you pay all the interest.

Student Loans

- 2. Federal Parent Loans- Parents of dependent students can take out loans to supplement their children's aid packages. The federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) lets parents borrow money to cover any costs not already covered by the student's financial aid package, up to the full cost of attendance. These loans will be in the parents name!
- 3. Private Student Loans-Private Education Loans, also known as Alternative Education Loans, help bridge the gap between the actual cost of your education and the limited amount the government allows you to borrow in its programs. Private loans are offered by private lenders and there are no federal forms to complete. Eligibility for private student loans often depends on your credit score.

For the 2007-2008 school year, graduating Seniors with a Bachelor's Degree had an average cumulative debt of.....



Monthly payment:

\$250/ month for 15 years

Total amount paid over the life of the loan:

\$44, 982

Will you be able to afford a \$250 a month payment?

In Jennings County a single adult, with no children needs to earn **\$1344/month** to pay for basic necessities.

When adding in the student loan payment those necessary earnings increase to **\$1594/month.**

Will you continue to be able to afford a \$250 a month payment?

In Jennings County, two adults with an infant need to earn **\$2908/month** to pay for basic necessities.

When adding in the student loan payment those necessary earnings increase to **\$3158/month.**

Student Loan Tips

• Borrow only what you need. Loans must be repaid—even if you don't finish college, didn't like the education you received or can't find a job after you graduate. Never use student loans to pay off other bills or buy things you may want but don't really need.

• Borrow federal loans first. Federal loans (Perkins and Stafford Loans for students, PLUS loans for parents) have low fixed interest rates and flexible repayment plans. File a FAFSA at Fafsa.ed.gov to be considered for federal loans.

• Make private loans a last resort. Apply for a private loan only if federal loans and other aid you receive are not enough to cover your college costs.

• Avoid credit cards. Never use a credit card to make a tuition payment unless you can pay off the balance by your next credit card statement.

How to Spot Deceptive Private Student Loan Practices?

•Some private lenders and their marketers use names, seals, logos, or other representations similar to those of government agencies to create the false or misleading impression that they are part of or affiliated with the federal government and its student loan programs.

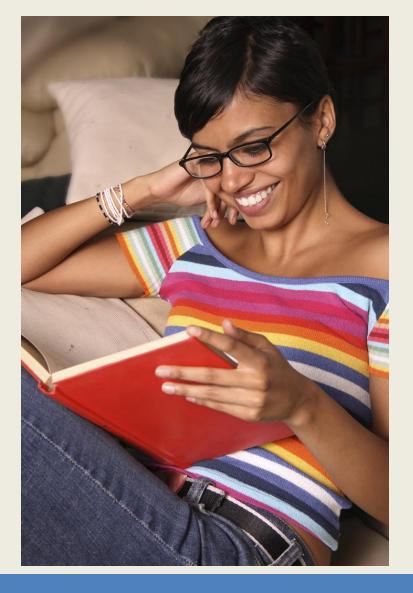
• The Department of Education (ED) does not send advertisements or mailers, or otherwise solicit consumers to borrow money. If you receive a student loan solicitation, it is not from ED.

•Don't let promotions or incentives like gift cards, credit cards, and sweepstakes prizes divert you from assessing whether the key terms of the loan are reasonable.

How to Spot Deceptive Private Student Loan Practices?

• Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you know with whom you are dealing. Private student lenders typically ask for your student account number — often your Social Security number (SSN) or Personal Identification Number (PIN) — saying they need it to help determine your eligibility. However, because scam artists who purport to be private student lenders can misuse this information, it is critical to provide it or other personal information only if you have confidence in the private student lender with whom you are dealing.

• Check out the track record of particular private student lenders with your state Attorney General (www.naag.org), your local consumer protection agency (www.consumeraction.gov), and the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org)



Additional Resources

Additional Resources

Learn More Indiana: www.learnmoreindiana.org

KnowHow2Go:http://www.knowhow2go.org/

College Access: <u>www.Going2College.org</u>

Federal Free Scholarship Search: <u>https://studentaid2.ed.gov/getmoney/scholarship/</u>

FAFSA4caster: https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e1s1

Federal Student Loan Handbook:

http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/11-12YFSL.pdf

Questions?

• If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact:

Jessica Fraser jfraser@incap.org 317-638-4232

Lisa Travis Itravis@incap.org 317-638-4232