PAYING FOR COLLEGE for future Hoosiers
IT’S TIME.

College is just around the corner. How will you pay for it?

Whether you’ve reserved your space at IU or you’re still weighing your options, follow the steps in this guide to set yourself up for financial success.
Now is the time to research financial aid opportunities. Most students pay for college by combining several funding sources: out-of-pocket + scholarships + need-based financial aid + campus job.

- **Complete the FAFSA.** This is how colleges determine your eligibility for need-based financial aid and federal loans. We encourage all students to file a FAFSA by the April 15 priority deadline every year.

- **Look for scholarships and grants.** Visit [scholarships.indiana.edu](http://scholarships.indiana.edu) to find opportunities at IU, and use the IU Scholarships tool in [One.IU](http://One.IU) to continue your search.

- **Explore non-IU scholarships, too.** You can find links and resources for external funding at [scholarships.indiana.edu](http://scholarships.indiana.edu).

- **Seek out opportunities in your community.** Students often find scholarships and grants through local clubs and organizations.
As financial aid offers arrive, this is the time to gather information and understand your options. Read each offer carefully, and complete any necessary steps. (IU’s financial aid notices are sent starting in February.)

- **Understand your net cost.** Start with the estimated cost of attendance (see IU’s at go.iu.edu/COA). Subtract any scholarships or grants you will receive. The result is your net cost: what you will need to pay with your own money and/or loans.

- **Talk with family about your college budget.** Discuss how you will pay and whether you will need to borrow loans, and work together to make a plan for the next four years and beyond.

- **Get MoneySmart.** Visit moneysmarts.iu.edu to calculate your costs based on your intended major and get tips for making informed financial decisions before, during, and after college.

- **Learn about payment plans.** IU offers an option that allows students to spread out their bill payments. Learn more at go.iu.edu/paymentplan.
3 CHOOSE

When it’s time to decide on a college, consider not just the cost but the *value*. Weighing factors such as cost of living, career goals, and potential income will help you make the right choice for your future. If you choose IU, make sure you reserve your space by paying your enrollment deposit by May 1.

- **Borrow wisely.** Student loans can be a practical way to help finance your education—but borrow only as much as you need.

- **Explore housing options and meal plans.** Your room-and-board choices can make an impact on your overall bill.

- **When it’s time to register,** choose courses that satisfy your academic objectives. Federal and state financial aid only applies to these courses, so work with your advisor to make sure you’re registering appropriately.

- **Consider applying for a campus job.** At IU, all campus jobs pay at least $10 per hour, so you can earn thousands of dollars over four years—money you’ll never have to pay back.
Knowledge is power.

We’re here to help you understand college costs so you can make your best choice.

Student Central

studentcentral.indiana.edu
812-855-6500
scu@iu.edu
facebook StudentCentralIU
twitter StuCentralIU

Office of Admissions

admissions.indiana.edu
812-855-0661
admissions@indiana.edu
instagram IUAdmissions
facebook FutureHoosiersFamilyAndFriends

Office of Scholarships

scholarships.indiana.edu
812-855-5779
scholar@iu.edu
facebook Instagram twitter IUScholarships

MoneySmarts

moneysmarts.iu.edu
812-855-9111
mnysmrt@iu.edu
instagram twitter facebook IUMoneySmarts

Indiana University
Bloomington