



INDIANA COMMISSION ^{for} HIGHER EDUCATION

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State of Indiana Launches Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana Initiative

Initiative champions relationship between military-affiliated Hoosiers and postsecondary institutions

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](#) (Commission) and the [Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs](#) (IDVA) today launched the [Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana \(CPSI\)](#) initiative. The CPSI recognizes eligible postsecondary institutions that have successfully demonstrated a supportive environment for its United States military-affiliated student population from application to graduation.

With the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 384-2023, Indiana became a national leader in championing the relationship between military-affiliated individuals and postsecondary institutions by establishing the CPSI.

“One of the Commission’s seven areas of focus in the [HOPE Agenda](#) calls for Indiana to be a top 10 state in the nation by 2030 in postsecondary attainment for veterans, which includes bachelor’s degrees, certificates, and associate degrees,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. “In order to do that, we must make the marketplace friendlier for our military-affiliated Hoosiers. The Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana will do just that by informing prospective students of which Indiana institutions have established a military-supportive environment.”



During the launch, the official [CPSI Field Guide for Postsecondary Institutions](#) was released. The Field Guide provides higher education institutions with the criteria for the 37 standards of the CPSI Award. The standards fit within eight categories: core requirements, marketing and communication strategies, admissions and enrollment, financial support, institutional support systems, student support services, student engagement, and career and community engagement opportunities.

“Our nation’s military and veterans deserve the absolute best that this nation can provide at every instance. Indiana’s educational institutions are among the best in the nation, and it is critical to recognize their achievements in providing high-quality education to our nation’s finest,” said Director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs Dennis Wimer. “The Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana initiative will help them easily see the support that is provided by Indiana’s top postsecondary institutions and help identify the services and supports that are so critical for continued educational success.”

Applications for the CPSI Award will open in January 2025, giving institutions time to implement or improve resources, policies, practices, and programs on campus to meet the CPSI standards. The Commission and IDVA will jointly award the CPSI designations within three tiers based on the number of the 37 standards met. Participation in the CPSI Award is voluntary for postsecondary institutions.

About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates, and defines Indiana's postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. The Commission also administers Indiana's financial aid programs, including the [21st Century Scholars](#) early college promise scholarship, which celebrated 30 years in 2020.

About the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) is a state agency dedicated to serving. Its mission is to Support, Serve, and Advocate for the Indiana Veterans Community. IDVA aims to make Indiana the choice for veterans to Live, Work and Thrive. For more information about IDVA and its services, visit in.gov/dva.