

Spring 2006

Alumni

CONNECTIONS

Early College Available in 2006!

Ivy Tech Community College has announced a new program to help area high school students reach their higher education goals. The Early College program allows high school students to achieve a one-year head start on their college careers by earning high school and college credit at the same time. A majority of the credits are transferable to other Indiana colleges and universities.



“...benefit students by increasing their access to higher education, reducing the time it takes them to earn a college degree, and ultimately saving money for families.”

Ivy Tech partnered with Jefferson High School in September 2005 to offer Early College to juniors enrolled in Jefferson's Business and Technology Academy. Students who enroll in Early College may be eligible for scholarships established with an endowment from the McAllister Foundation. Jefferson students will attend classes at the high school and on the Ivy Tech campus.

In December 2005, Ivy Tech expanded its Early College program to include Tippecanoe School Corporation students. The program will allow seniors at McCutcheon and Harrison High Schools to earn high school and college credit while attending classes at Ivy Tech. Tuition will be paid by TSC, and students will be responsible for textbooks and other supplies.



“ ...provide an educated workforce for area employers...”

“This opportunity will benefit students by increasing their access to higher education, reducing the time it takes them to earn a college degree, and ultimately saving money for families,” said Vince Bertram, Principal at Jefferson High School.

“We are fortunate to have such an outstanding community college facility within our school community,” said Dr. Richard Wood, TSC Superintendent. “We are pleased that qualified TSC 12th graders will have the option to attend classes at a beautiful college campus.”

The program is the first of its kind in Indiana. Selected high school students will be enrolled as students on the Ivy Tech campus where they may choose from a group of classes from the college's General Education Division. They will have the opportunity to earn up to 30 hours of college credit prior to graduation from high school.

The students receive advising and academic support services from their high school counselors and Ivy Tech advisors. Jefferson, TSC and Ivy Tech hope high school students get excited about learning beyond high school and gain confidence about their ability to succeed in a college environment.

“Bringing the program to more high school students in our region is consistent with the state's vision of seamless K-16 education, and with the community college's mission to provide an educated workforce for area employers,” said Dr. David Bathe, Chancellor of Ivy Tech Community College in Lafayette. “The program is especially beneficial to those who plan to continue their education at Ivy Tech. It will ensure that local residents are invested in a higher education institution in Indiana, and enhance the workforce in our region.”



When repaying your student loan, you have some choices in repayment plans [for FFEL and Direct Loans] that can make repaying easier and help you avoid delinquency or default. If you're delinquent, it means you're late making a scheduled loan payment [most often, you're 30 days or more late]. Default generally means you're 270 days or more late in making a loan payment. [Note: For Federal Perkins Loans, however, default is defined as the failure to make an installment payment when due or the failure to comply with other terms of your promissory note or written repayment agreement.]



Although default is more serious than delinquency, delinquency can be reported to credit bureaus. A delinquency notation remains part of your financial history and could affect your credit rating. Repaying your loan on time will help you establish and maintain a good credit rating, which is crucial when you want to buy a car or a house, or even if you want to rent an apartment. Sometimes, your credit rating can even affect whether you'll be selected for a particular job. So, it's important to keep paying on your student loans!

This is the second in a series of articles concerning student loans.

Q. What repayment plans are available?

A. Repayment plans vary depending on the type of loan you have: Perkins Loan, Direct Loan or a FFELs.

◆ *Perkins Loans*

The Federal Perkins Loan Program doesn't have a variety of repayment plans. Your monthly payment amount will depend on the size of your debt and the length of your repayment period. However, the minimum monthly payment is generally \$40.

Examples of Typical Payments for Federal Perkins Loan Repayment

Total Loan Amount	Number of Payments	Monthly Payment	Total Interest Charges	Total Repaid
\$3,000	90	\$40	\$604.55	\$3,604.55
\$5,000	1	\$4.55	\$1,363.40	\$6,363.40
	119	\$53.06		
\$15,000	1	\$49.26	\$4,090.85	\$19,090.85
	119	\$159.16		
	1	\$150.81		

◆ *Direct Loans*

Four repayment plans are available under the Direct Loan Program. Direct PLUS Loan borrowers are eligible for all except the Income Contingent Repayment Plan.

1. Standard Repayment Plan

With the Standard Repayment Plan, you'll pay a fixed amount each month until your loan is paid in full. Your monthly payments will be at least \$50, and you'll have up to 10 years to repay. The Standard Repayment Plan is good for you if you can handle higher monthly payments because you'll repay your loan more quickly. Your monthly payments will be higher than under the other plans because your loan will be repaid in the shortest possible time. Because of the 10-year limit on repayment, however, you might pay the least amount of interest.

2. Extended Repayment Plan

Under the Extended Repayment Plan, you'll still have minimum monthly payments of \$50, but you can take generally from 12 to 30 years to repay your loan. The length of your repayment period will depend on the total amount you owe when your loan goes into repayment.

This is a good plan if you think you'll need to make smaller monthly payments. Because the repayment period generally will be at least 12 years, your monthly payments will be less than with the Standard Plan. However, you'll end up paying more in interest because you're taking longer to pay back the loan.



Be a
Smart
Borrower

The longer your loan is in repayment,
the more interest you'll pay,
and the more your loan will cost you.

3. Graduated Repayment Plan

With this plan, your payments start out low, then increase in stages. You can generally take from 12 to 30 years to repay your loan. The length of your repayment period will depend on the total amount you owe when your loan goes into repayment. This plan might be right for you if you expect your income to increase steadily over time. Your initial monthly payments will be equal to *either* the interest that accumulates on your loan between payments *or* half the payment you would make each month using the Standard Repayment Plan, *whichever is greater*. However, your monthly payments will never increase to more than 1.5 times what you would pay with the Standard Repayment Plan. As is true for the Extended Plan, you'll also pay more in interest over the life of your loan.

4. Income Contingent Repayment Plan

The Income Contingent Repayment [ICR] Plan is designed to give you the flexibility to pay your loan without causing undue financial hardship. Each year, your monthly payment will be based on your adjusted gross income [AGI]—as reported on your U.S. income tax return—your family size, the interest rate, and the total amount of your Direct Loan debt. To participate in the ICR plan, you must authorize the IRS to inform ED of your income amount. This information will be used to calculate your repayment amount, which will be adjusted annually to reflect changes in your AGI and in the interest rate on your loan.

For more information on Direct Loan repayment options, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center at:

The Direct Loan Servicing Center
Borrower Services: [800] 848-0979 or [315] 738-6634
Fax: [800] 848-0984
TTY: [800] 848-0983
www.dl.ed.gov

◆ FFELs

There are also four repayment plans available. FFEL PLUS Loan borrowers are generally eligible for all four and might have options for additional repayment plans, depending on the lender. Also, individual lenders can tailor the FFEL repayment plans. Check with your lender for more information.

1. Standard Repayment Plan

As with the Standard Repayment Plan under the Direct Loan Program, your monthly payments will be at least \$50, and you'll have up to 10 years to repay.

2. Graduated Repayment Plan

Under the FFEL Graduated Repayment Plan, your payments will be lower at first, and then increase over time. Each payment must at least equal the interest accrued on the loan between scheduled payments. No scheduled payment amount can be more than three times greater than any other scheduled payment amount. You're generally expected to repay the loan within 10 years.

3. Income Sensitive Repayment Plan

Like the Income Contingent Repayment Plan under the Direct Loan Program, the FFEL Income Sensitive Repayment Plan bases your monthly payment on your yearly income and your loan amount. As your income increases or decreases, so do your payments. Each payment must at least equal the interest accrued on the loan between scheduled payments, and no scheduled payment amount can be more than three times greater than any other scheduled payment amount.

4. Extended Repayment Plan

The Extended Repayment Plan is available to new FFEL borrowers who received their first loan on or after October 7, 1998 and who have FFELs totaling more than \$30,000. Under the Extended Repayment Plan, your payments will be fixed or graduated [lower at first and then increased over time] over a period of up to 25 years.

Q. Can I do anything to deal with the interest?

A. Some loan holders offer reduced interest rates if you repay your loan using electronic debiting [allowing your bank to automatically deduct your monthly loan payments from your checking or savings account]. Sometimes you can get a reduced interest rate if you make a certain number of consecutive on time monthly payments. For the FFEL Program, you should contact your lender to find out about these options. For the Direct Loan Program, call [800] 848-0979 or visit the Web site at: www.dl.ed.gov

There are tax incentives for certain higher education expenses, including a deduction for student loan interest for certain borrowers. This benefit applies to federal *and* nonfederal loans taken out to pay for postsecondary education costs. The maximum deduction is \$2,500 a year. IRS Publication 970, *Tax Benefits for Higher Education*, explains these credits and other tax benefits. You can find out more by calling the IRS at [800] 829-1040. TTY callers can call [800] 829-4059.

Q. How do I know which repayment plan is best for me?

A. Although you're asked to choose a plan when you first begin repayment, you might want to switch plans later if a different plan would work better for your current financial situation. Under the FFEL Program, you can change plans once a year. Under the Direct Loan Program, you can change plans any time as long as the maximum repayment period under your new plan is longer than the time your Direct Loans have already been in repayment. You can choose the Income Contingent Repayment Plan at any time.

Remember that you don't necessarily want to choose a plan just because it offers the lowest monthly payment. While doing so seems tempting, this might not be the best course of action. You might need more information about what you can afford before you select a plan.

Continues on page 4



Q. How can I figure out what I can afford?

A. To get a handle on your expenses, preparing a monthly budget once you leave school can help you identify how you spend money so you can track your spending to make sure it stays within certain guidelines. A budget can also help you see how much of your loan you can repay each month. You might be able to afford larger monthly loan payments than you thought, or your budget could show that you need to cut back on nonessential spending.

◆ *Income*

To begin preparing your budget, collect your pay stubs and bank statements. Your net monthly salary is what's left after state and federal taxes, Social Security, Medicare [FICA], and any other deductions are taken from your gross pay. You can probably estimate that 25 to 30% of your salary will go to taxes and Medicare. So, to figure your net monthly salary, multiply your gross monthly amount by .75 or .70.

Next, add any other sources of income you might have, such as interest income or contributions from family members. Don't forget nontaxable income such as Veterans Benefits.

◆ *Expenses*

Next calculate your expenses. If you don't already know your housing arrangements and you're single, consider whether you'll live alone or with roommates to cut down on expenses. Estimate the cost of housing in the area where you expect to live by calling rental properties to get an idea of the amount of rent you'll pay or the average cost to buy a house.

If you rent, and your utilities [electricity, telephone, water] are not already included, get an estimate from the rental properties you check. If you're already paying these costs, collect some bills for a few months to get an idea of the average monthly amount you're paying. When you budget for telephone bills, don't forget your cell phone, if you have one, and any long distance calls.

For food expenses, keep a weekly record for a few weeks to a month to see what you're spending for groceries, and what items you're buying. Do the same for personal expenses such as laundry, toiletries such as shampoo or cosmetics, eating out, and entertainment. You can see if there's a way to cut down on buying some items or a way to buy less expensive ones.

When budgeting for transportation costs, consider whether you need to drive to work or whether it would be possible [and perhaps less expensive] to take the subway or bus. You'll probably still need to budget for a car, which would include gas, maintenance, insurance, and repairs. You might need to add parking fees if you drive to work.

Budgeting for health care expenses is a good idea so you can cover expenses your health insurance might not. You might not need to spend on health care each month, but the money will be there if you need it.

If you're caring for a child or for an older person, figure in the cost of expenses such as day care or home health care, if necessary.

Obviously, you'll have to budget for other debts you might have, including credit card debt. Here is an area where you might be able to save some money. Interest on credit cards often builds up quickly, so people spend much more for a purchase than the original price. Paying more than the minimum due on credit cards can help pay them off sooner, providing more funds for other unavoidable expenses—like your student loan debt!

By trying to cut nonessential expenses, you might also be able to set some money aside for emergencies, or just to put into a savings account. Having some extra funds—if possible—is helpful for unexpected expenses.

If, after preparing your budget, you find your finances are tight, your loan holder can help you identify the repayment plan requiring the lowest monthly payment amount; you can use this plan until your economic situation improves.

If your total resources are greater than your total expenses, you might select a loan repayment option with a higher monthly payment. That way, your loan will be paid off sooner, which will reduce the total amount of interest you pay. You can also reduce your total interest by sending payments larger than required. This is called making a prepayment, and you can do this at any time and won't be charged a fee for doing so.

Next issue: Repayment Options

Halloween Spooks Visit Ivy Hall

Over 200 spooks and their parents “trick-or-treated” at Ivy Tech Community College on October 9 during a Halloween event hosted by the Student Government Association [SGA] and Students Against a Violent Environment [SAVE]. Families from the local YWCA Women’s Shelter and Twyckenham Apartments haunted Ivy Hall on campus in return for treats.

Upon arrival, children and parents made marshmallow leaf prints, pumpkin crowns and leaf-beaded necklaces. Students in the college’s Early Childhood Education program assisted children and parents with the crafts.

“We had a great deal of fun helping the families with their craft creations and look forward to participating in the event next year,” said Amanda Barche Lindberg, Early Childhood Education Program Chair.

After enjoying refreshments and crafts, the children explored Ivy Hall. Ivy Tech students, faculty and staff chose different decoration themes for 15 classrooms. They ranged from the Wizard of Oz to Bigfoot’s forest. Candy was given to children in each room.

“SGA and SAVE wanted to host an event that benefited children in difficult situations. This event was designed to help disadvantaged families,” said Richard Weatherford, SGA president. “The entire event was a success. I foresee that this was just a glimpse of what the event could become in the future.”

By Lee Morrison, Admissions Advisor

Employers Are Looking For YOU!

Area employers are looking for Ivy Tech graduates to fill open positions. Bring a stack of resumes and dress for success. For the first time, a special career fair for health professionals will be held. See dates and times below.



Health Career Fair
February 21, 2006
Time: 1 pm – 5 pm
Ivy Hall Lilly Rooms

Employers seek health care students and graduates to fill open positions.



Career Fair
April 6, 2006
Time: 2 pm – 6 pm
Ivy Hall Lilly Rooms

Employers seek business, technology, public services, and liberal arts students and graduates to fill open positions.

For more information contact Career Services at [765] 269-5612 or in Indiana [800] 669-4882 ext. 5612.

Need Your Ivy Tech Transcript? Here’s How . . .

All current and former students are entitled to one transcript at no charge. For each additional transcript, a \$5.00 fee will be charged and must be paid before a transcript will be issued. An official copy of your academic work can only be obtained with your written approval. *Transcript Request Forms* are available in the Registrar’s Office and at: www.laf.ivytech.edu. The college will not process a transcript request by phone or e-mail. Requests can be made in one of the following ways:

◆ By Mail

Complete the *Transcript Request Form* and mail to:

Ivy Tech Community College
Registrar’s Office
PO Box 6299
Lafayette , IN 47903-6299

◆ By Fax

Complete the *Transcript Request Form* and fax to:

[765] 269-5280

◆ In Person

Complete the *Transcript Request Form* and submit to:

Registrar’s Office
Ivy Hall Room 1146

Ivy Tech alumni, students and staff can purchase discount tickets to events held around the state. See event information for ticket buying information.

Ken Double Organ Concert
Long Center Theater Organ Society proudly presents Ken Double performing on the theater organ on Saturday, June 10, 2006 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. For more information log onto: www.longcentertheater.com

Weekend with the Pacers
Mark your calendar on March 25-26, 2006 for the Ivy Tech alumni association’s annual *Weekend with the Pacers*. Details will be coming soon for all activities, including expanded ticket offerings for the Sunday afternoon game against the Philadelphia 76ers.

Campus Happenings Info Now Online!

Have you ever wondered what was happening on the Lafayette campus? Ivy Tech offers Campus Calendar that you can access online to find out. Community events, workshops, admission and financial aid deadlines, student group activities, campus library events, academic dates, and more are listed on a web based calendar. Click on a listed event for more information about that event. Check it out at:

www.my.calendars.net/itcc

Past Distinguished Alumni Award Winners



- 1991 **Kathy Vernon**
- 1992 Steve Reed
- 1993 Jim Myers
- 1994 John Stall
- 1995 Tom Gaston
- 1996 Teresa Janssen & Rudy Mills
- 1997 Scott Robertson
- 1998 Billy Henderson & Patricia Shepperd
- 1999 Cherilynn Mundell
- 2003 Linda Eckert
- 2004 Diana Bonebrake
- 2005 Alan Burnette

Calling all alumni! Have you achieved success in your career or community service? Do you know someone who is an Ivy Tech grad and achieved success? The Alumni Association is looking for successful alumni.

Each year the Alumni Association recognizes successful alumni with the Distinguished Alumni Award presented during the commencement ceremony at the Elliott Hall of Music. Over the past twelve years, fourteen alumni have been honored with this prestigious award.

For more information contact the Alumni Affairs Office at [800] 669-4882, ext. 5619 or [765] 269-5619. To nominate yourself or another candidate, complete the included nomination form and send it to the address at the right. To download the form online, go to: www.laf.ivytech.edu

Deadline for completed nomination forms is February 15, 2006.

Alumni Affairs Office
 Ivy Tech Community College
 P.O. Box 6299
 Lafayette, IN 47903-6299
 dball@ivytech.edu [e-mail]
 [765] 269-5276 [fax]

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATION FORM
Ivy Tech Community College – Lafayette

CRITERIA

The nominee must be an alumna/us of the Lafayette campus of Ivy Tech Community College, having received either a Technical Certificate, Associate in Applied Science, or Associate in Science degree. In addition, the candidate must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Through leadership or volunteer work, the alumna/us has made a positive impact on her or his community and/or Ivy Tech Community College and/or the alumna/us has achieved a unique distinction in her or his career.
2. The alumna/us has graduated at least **five years** prior to the nomination.
3. The alumna/us is not a current employee of Ivy Tech Community College.

ALUMNA/US INFORMATION

Name	Phone
Street Address	Major
City, State, Zip	Degree and Graduation Year

On a separate sheet of paper please indicate your reasons for nominating this alumna/us.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your Name	Phone
Title	Employer
Your Street Address	Date
City, State, Zip	e-mail

In what capacity do you know the alumna/us?

Campus News & Accomplishments



Molly Gillam, a junior at Lafayette Jefferson High School, is a recipient of the Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana Robotics Scholarship. Gillam was an active participant on her high school's Precision-Guessworks Team 1646 that competed in the 2005 Indiana Robotics Invitational. Her award will cover the cost of books, fees and supplies up to a total of \$1000. She may use her scholarship funds at the college between 2007 and 2009. The scholarship is administered by Ivy Tech Foundation, Inc.



Diann Robinson, Department Chair of Academic Skills Advancement and Program Chair and Associate Professor of Academic Skills Advancement Mathematics attended the annual American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges [AMATYC] conference. The conference was held in San Diego, CA on November 10-13, 2005 and featured over 200 workshops and presentations.

Robinson was one of more than 1400 mathematics educators from the United States and Canada who attended the 31st annual professional conference. The AMATYC is the only organization exclusively devoted to providing a national forum for the improvement of the instruction of mathematics in the first two years of college.



Tom McCool, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications, joined colleagues from the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, and Central America at the American Marketing Association's 16th Annual Symposium for the Marketing of Higher Education. The conference was held in Chicago, IL on November 13-16. The symposium brought together more than 40 marketing presentations that addressed branding, web marketing, integrated marketing communications, market research, strategic planning, and competitive positioning through practical campus case studies. The American Marketing Association, one of the largest professional associations for marketers, has 38,000 members worldwide in every area of marketing.

The Medical Assisting program has been awarded a 10-year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon recommendation of the American Association of Medical Assistants [AAMA]. The accreditation recognizes that graduates of general medical assisting studies who earn an associate of applied science degree or technical certificate are prepared to take the certified medical assistant [CMA] national exam administered by the AAMA Certifying Board.

In addition to the general medical assisting program, other concentrations within the program include administrative, insurance coding, phlebotomy, and transcription. The associate degree program transfers to IUPUI-Ft. Wayne and the University of Southern Indiana. For more information on the Medical Assisting program, call [765] 269-5720, or visit:

www.laf.ivytech.edu



Stay in Touch!

Tell us your news. Share your accomplishments. Has your marital status, job, or address changed? Please send your information to the address on page 6.

YOUR NEWS FORM Ivy Tech – Lafayette

First Name _____

Last _____

Maiden _____

Spouse's First Name _____

Last Maiden _____

Year Graduated/Years Attended _____

Home Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Check here if new home address

Work Phone _____

Fax _____

e-mail _____

Employer's Name _____

Your Title _____

Work Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Attach additional sheet as needed.



Going Wireless

Ivy Tech Community College students will be able to enjoy the sunshine while working on class assignments when a wireless computer network is installed at the Lafayette and Crawfordsville campuses. The wireless connection will allow students, college employees, and the general public to surf the Internet from any location on campus – inside or outside. Any classroom or meeting room can quickly be transformed into a computer lab using laptops outfitted with wireless network cards.

“The wireless installation provides the latest technology, flexibility in classroom usage, and a valuable service to our community,” said Dr. David Bathe, Chancellor for Ivy Tech in Lafayette and Crawfordsville. “Becoming a wireless campus simply makes sense for Ivy Tech.”

Students will be able to use the same online services available to them through a wired connection, including the student web portal, distance education, student services and the virtual library. A class may sit on the lawn in the campus mall, using wireless laptops linked to the instructor’s laptop. Students can enjoy

a break between classes outside on the student patio, surfing the Internet.

Computer classrooms and labs can be set up “on the fly” without extensive wiring. A portable cart stocked with wireless laptops can be wheeled into any room on campus and quickly set up with networked computers. The wireless system will also benefit future class offerings in wireless networks and health information technology. In Crawfordsville, all computer classrooms will be wireless except one wired classroom used to teach courses in CAD/CAM software.

Because the wireless network will have access points in all public areas within and outside buildings, anyone with a wireless-enabled device will be able to surf the Internet from anywhere on campus including the joint college/county library on the Lafayette campus. To ensure safety and security, the network will scan the device for

virus and security protection and provide updates if necessary. The college Internet connection is also filtered to prevent access to known hacker sites and pornography.

Another feature of the wireless system is “voice over Internet protocol (VoIP),” or telephones that use an Internet connection to carry digital voice transmissions. The new Crawfordsville campus will be designed to use only wired and wireless VoIP phones, and the phones will be phased in at the Lafayette campus as new offices are installed or traditional phones are replaced.

The installation will be the most extensive wireless computer network and VoIP system within the Ivy Tech statewide system. Other Ivy Tech campuses offer wireless network access points inside classrooms or specific buildings.

The *Alumni Connection* is published semiannually by the Alumni Affairs Office, Ivy Tech Community College – Lafayette.

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