A SHARED VISION FOR INDIANA UNIVERSITY’S REGIONAL CAMPUSES
- Provisional Version -

Indianapolis University’s regional campuses are an essential element in the system of higher education in Indiana, preparing Hoosier students for the productive lives and careers on which the state will build a prosperous future in the competitive economy of tomorrow. The state’s goal of increasing the number of Hoosiers in the workforce who hold high-quality baccalaureate degrees cannot be met without strong and vigorous regional campuses, and so IU welcomes the opportunity provided by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education to revisit the structure and mission of the regional campuses within IU to achieve this and other important state objectives, while recognizing the unique character and attributes of each campus.

The regional campuses will offer student-centered, flexible, and innovative university learning environments in which a wide range of students with solid educational preparation can succeed in nationally competitive baccalaureate and selected masters-level degree programs. The regional campuses share a commitment to degree completion, affordability, and regional engagement and economic development. While the core of each institution is a four-year university baccalaureate program, the campuses’ academic programs will link transparently to those of the community colleges and research universities. Working together, and with IU’s two largest campuses, the regional campuses will take advantage of efficiencies in common administrative functions, shared academic resources, targeted areas of focus for individual campuses, and, increasingly, distributed educational opportunities that leverage common and differentiated resources by using shared curricula and new technologies.
The IU regional campuses should be the first choice for many Hoosier students who seek a baccalaureate degree or certain master’s degrees in a university setting that meets their need or preference to stay close to home for their college experience, to obtain an education that draws on the resources of a major university, or to attend classes on a full-time or part-time basis while engaging in campus life through commuting or residential experiences. Regional campuses also offer academically rigorous on-line courses which take full advantage of current and emerging technologies and research into new modes of learning and which complement on-campus resources (such as faculty members, libraries, laboratories, counselors, and study groups) to provide students with a comprehensive educational experience, including opportunities for undergraduate research.

All academic programs will be distinguished by ready access to full-time faculty who are active and expert in their respective fields of study, who are committed to student success in the classroom and in the workplace, and who will go the extra mile to help students to complete degree programs. Just as the needs of regional economies will be an integral part of campus programs and engagement, the campuses will be an integral part of the development of their regions: an IU education prepares students not just for the jobs of today, but for the leadership roles of tomorrow. IU students graduate with the knowledge base, analytical and research skills, and leadership abilities which will serve them throughout working lives that will span several jobs – perhaps even several careers – and will assuredly involve responsibilities and problems that are beyond today’s horizon. The faculty, students, and alumni of IU’s regional campuses will shape a bright future for Indiana.