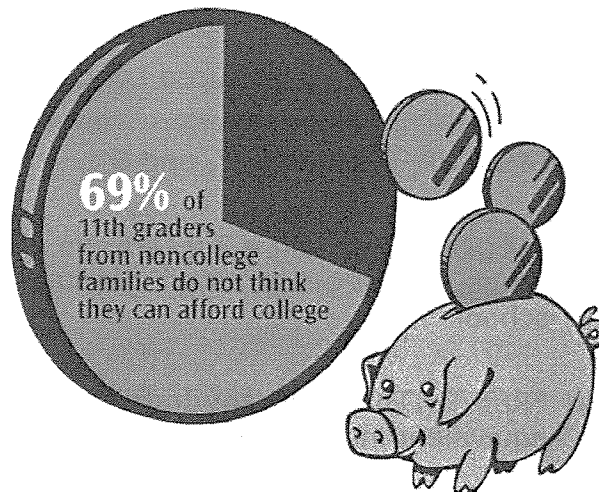


Elimination of financial barriers to college for low-income students

Twenty-first Century Scholars

Students Perceive Cost of College as a Barrier



Source: Indiana's Annual Career and College Information Survey of Students in Grades 9 and 11, 1007



Twenty-first Century Scholars:

An Early Promise Program

- Eliminates the financial barrier to college
- Challenges kids to work hard academically
- Challenges kids to stay out of trouble
- Gives them another reason to stay on-track for high school graduation
- Helps them take the steps necessary to get to and through college

Indiana's #1 drop-out prevention program!



Twenty-first Century Scholars:

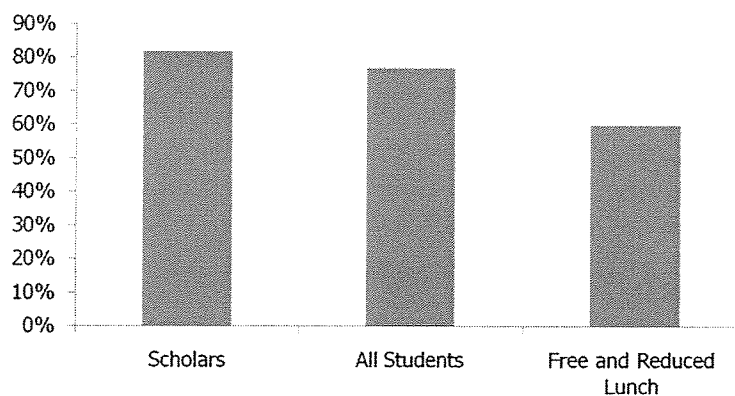
An Early Promise

- QUALIFY - Free & Reduced Lunch
- SIGN-UP - Grades 6, 7, and 8
- PLEDGE – Maintain a 2.0 GPA, no alcohol or drugs, do not get arrested, graduate from high school
- FREE TUITION – At any Indiana public or equivalent independent college or university

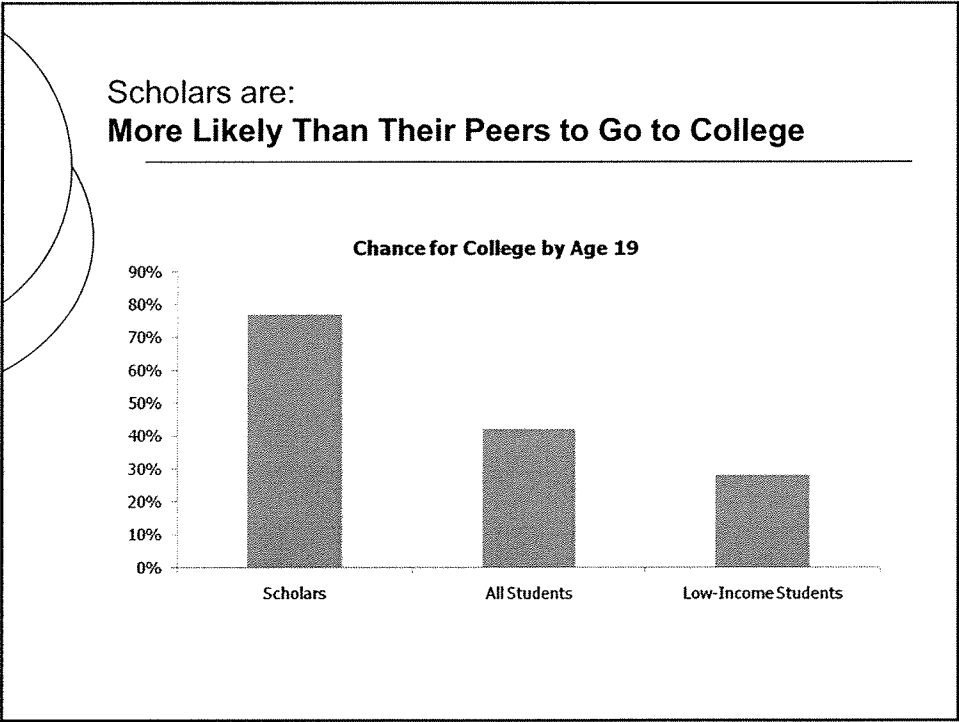
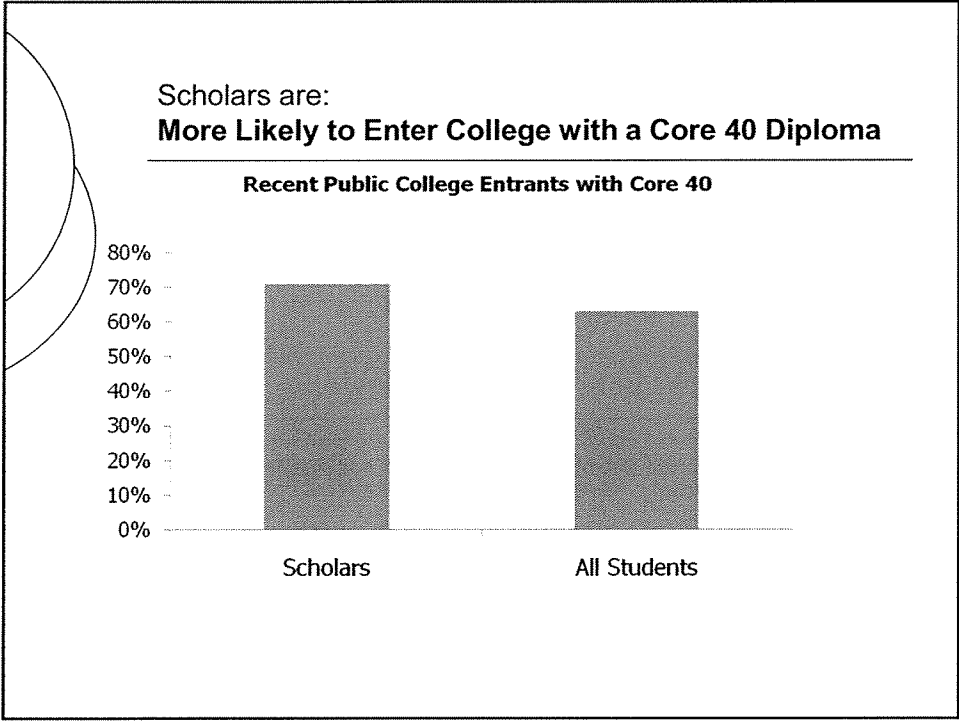
Snapshot of Twenty-first Century Scholars

- 58% First generation college students
- 49% Single parent family
- Median family income: \$29,000
 - Median family income of other state grant recipients \$33,000
 - Median family income of students not eligible for state aid \$80,000
 - Indiana median family income for a family of four \$65,464 (2004)

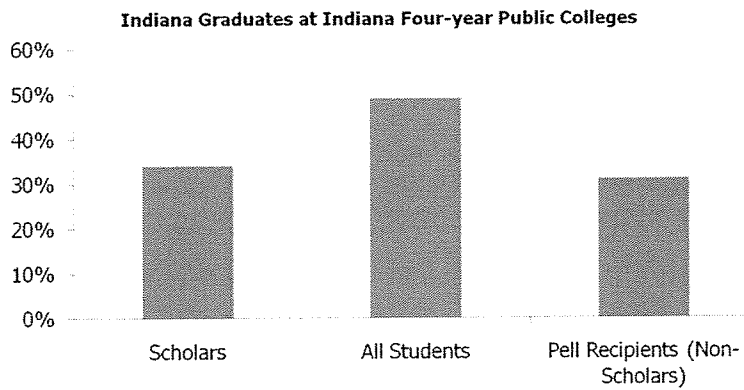
Scholars are: More Likely Than Their Peers to Graduate From High School



Note: Free and reduced lunch data underestimate the extent of poverty among high school students, as free and reduced lunch participation rates significantly decline in grades 9-12.



Scholars are:
More Likely Than Their Low-Income Peers to Graduate from College,
But Less Likely Than All Students to Graduate from College



72% of students from **high-income** families complete college by age 24,

Only **10%** of students from **low-income** families complete college by this age.



Source: Postsecondary Education Opportunity, June 2007.

