

MAKING THE ACADEMIC CONNECTION OFFICE

SUPPORT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

for minority students and Twenty-first Century Scholars





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WHO WE ARE

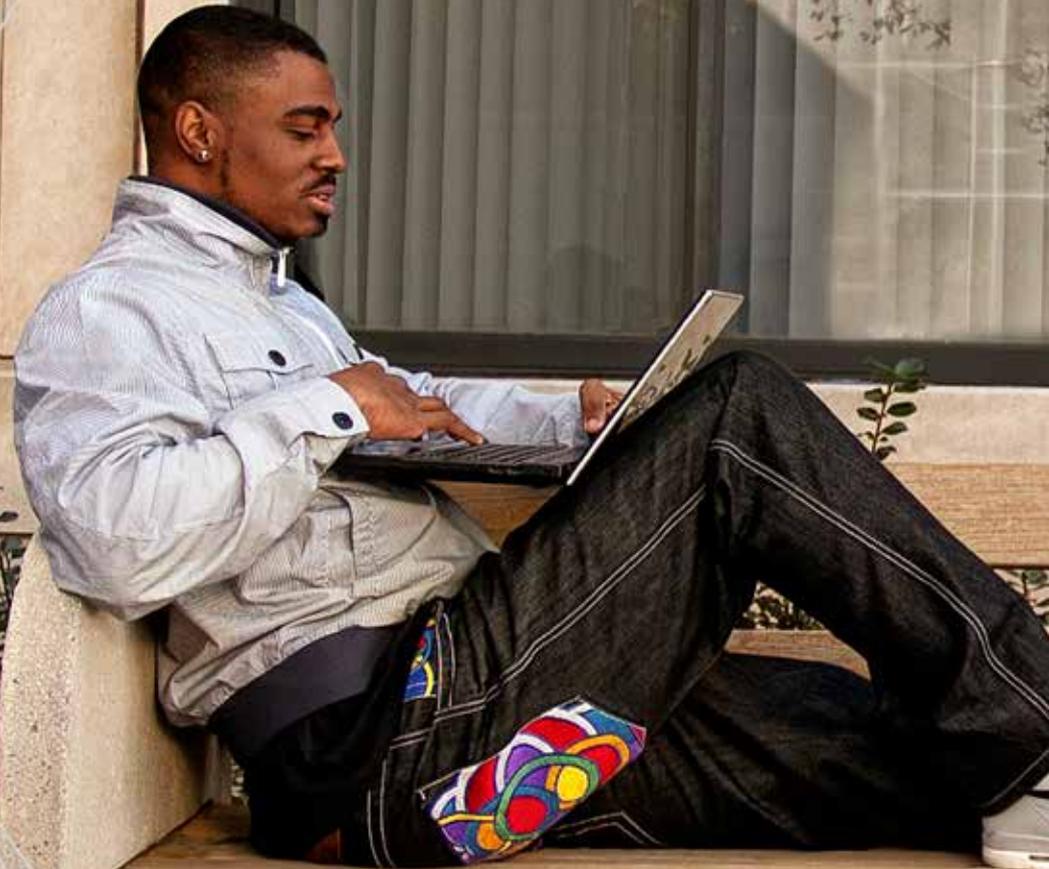
The Making the Academic Connection Office (MAC) consists of a team of counselors committed to providing support services, programs, and advocacy for African-American and Latino student populations (which are the two largest underrepresented groups on campus) and Twenty-first Century Scholars.

MAC was initially established as a program on the Indiana University South Bend campus in 2001 amidst statewide efforts to increase the graduation rates of minority and first generation college students. Since our inception, we have expanded to become a multi-service Office within the larger context of Student Services.

We connect with students on all levels: academic, financial, personal, and social. We are committed to ensuring that our students have every opportunity to achieve academic success and graduate from Indiana University South Bend.

VISION

Our office desires
to see every
minority student
and Twenty-first
Century Scholar
excel academically
and graduate.



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- // Academic & Personal Counsel
- // Relay Peer Mentoring Program
- // Summer Leadership Academy
- // Annual Graduation Reception
- // FAFSA and Scholarship Workshops
- // Multicultural Student Showcases
- // Networking and Mixer Events
- // Support to Student Organizations

Orientation Through Graduation

Our commitment is to walk with students from orientation through graduation. We begin with incoming freshmen who earn college credit through the summer Leadership Academy. We continue by connecting with students and their families at New Student Orientation. We understand that families who are new to college and university life also have many questions. Finally, we strive to engage students with counselors, peers, faculty, and student organizations. We know that a connected student is a student who graduates.

Whether a minority student or Twenty-first Century Scholar, our goal is that all students are well informed, well prepared, and ready to begin, or resume, this journey called college. By helping students to understand, navigate, and thrive in the culture of college, they can place their focus on what matters most...their coursework, and ultimately their Indiana University degree.



TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SCHOLARS

The Twenty-first Century Scholars Program is Indiana's way of raising the educational aspirations of low and moderate-income families. The state's scholarship provides tuition support for eligible students who are committed to good citizenship and academic achievement. The program aims to ensure that all Indiana families can afford a college education for their children.

The program provides eight semesters of college funding for eligible students. On the IU South Bend campus, Twenty-first Century Scholars will find additional support and services through the MAC Office. Counselors within our office have been trained to assist Scholars with specialized support services, counseling, and workshops designed to meet their unique needs.



RELAY PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

IN THE RACE TO A DEGREE...GET A HEADSTART

Relay is a peer mentoring program geared towards incoming minority students and Twenty-first Century Scholars. The program engages new students throughout the critical first-year transition from high school to college. Small groups create a friendly and welcoming environment for students, opening avenues for them to build relationships with other students, faculty, and the IU South Bend campus community.



PEER MENTORS

Relay groups are facilitated by student mentors who, much like a big brother or sister, assist students in learning to navigate college life. They provide academic, social, and emotional support for students while gaining valuable leadership skills and extensive experience in program planning, time management, teamwork, and collaboration.



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LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Leadership Academy is a seven-week, academically focused summer program for graduating minority and Twenty-first Century Scholar students who will be attending IU South Bend in the fall. Approximately thirty incoming, first-year students are selected and given an opportunity to receive college credit towards their degree program of choice. The program provides an in-depth study of the leadership principles of the Black and Chicano Civil Rights movements, while also equipping students with the tools necessary to succeed in college.

In the academy, students receive instruction from faculty with a passion for providing personal attention and positive support. Outside of the classroom, a team of successful student mentors actively engage students in a variety of fun activities which help them adjust and acclimate to the campus while also sharing their personal tips to achieving college success.





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