



Vice President for Student Success

[Indiana University \(IU\)](#) seeks a student-centered, forward-thinking, and collaborative leader for the inaugural role of Vice President for Student Success (VPSS). Reporting directly to [President Pamela Whitten](#) and serving on the President’s cabinet, the inaugural Vice President for Student Success will play a critical and highly visible role as an advocate for student interests in connection with all aspects of IU’s mission and operations. The Vice President for Student Success will work on a range of important issues that affect the student experience, including in the areas of student life; student conduct; student involvement and leadership; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and community engagement and belonging.

The University

Founded in 1820, Indiana University is one of the top public research universities in the world. Its core campuses are IU Bloomington, the oldest and largest campus; and IUPUI, an urban campus located in Indianapolis. The University also includes five regional campuses located in Gary, Kokomo, New Albany, Richmond, and South Bend; two IUPUI regional centers, located in Columbus and Fort Wayne; and nine School of Medicine campuses across Indiana. Innovation, creativity, and academic freedom are hallmarks of IU’s world-class contributions in research and the arts. The University is home to top-ranked business and music schools, the world’s first school of philanthropy, the nation’s first school of informatics, and the country’s largest medical school. Its hundreds of academic programs are among the world’s best, and the University is always looking toward the horizon, thinking about what’s next.

Leadership

[Pamela Whitten](#) became the 19th president of Indiana University on July 1, 2021. A visionary scholar and accomplished educator and researcher, Whitten has held a variety of leadership roles, beginning at Michigan State University, where she served as a dean for five years, and most recently as president of Kennesaw State University.

As IU’s first female president, Whitten assumes the helm at one of the nation’s leading research universities at a time of record-level research funding and philanthropic support.

Whitten holds a Ph.D. in communication studies from the University of Kansas, a Master of Arts in communication from the University of Kentucky, and a Bachelor of Science in management from Tulane University. She is an internationally recognized expert in the field of telemedicine. As part of her work in higher education, she additionally held leadership roles at the University of Georgia and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Student Body

Indiana University is dedicated to empowering students to cultivate meaningful careers, develop lifelong connections, and make an impact on the world. Hailing from all 50 U.S. states (plus Washington, D.C.) and over 160 countries, IU's student body is comprised of:

- 71,000+ degree-seeking undergraduate students
- 19,000+ students in graduate and professional programs
- 6,300+ international students
- 2,400+ non-traditional/non-degree seeking students

Twenty-nine percent of IU's degree-seeking domestic students University-wide identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and IU Northwest has recently been designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institution. Collectively, IU campuses offer students a multifaceted college experience including access to 1,500+ student organizations, 40 NCAA Division I and 60+ NAIA athletic teams, and 300+ [study abroad](#) programs in over 60 countries. On the Bloomington campus, approximately 18 percent of undergraduate students participate in [fraternity and sorority life](#), and many new students participate in one or more [living-learning centers](#). IU students are engaged in an array of service and service-learning activities locally, nationally, and globally.

The Role of the Vice President for Student Success

The Vice President for Student Success is a new, cabinet-level position. The inaugural VPSS will design and guide the implementation of an institutional approach to student success that will ensure a student-centered environment on all campuses and at all administrative levels. The VPSS will serve as the chief advocate for student interests in all aspects of decision-making at the University, collaborating with other members of the President's cabinet and key leaders at the University to elevate the student perspective. The VPSS will work closely with academic leadership on IU's campuses to identify areas of strategic opportunity for the advancement of student success University-wide and to implement innovative and effective programs and practices. The VPSS will guide University policy in the areas of student life and student conduct while serving as a cross-campus thought partner in the assessment of organizational structures, personnel, and resources to enhance the student experience at IU in meaningful and measurable ways. This person must be innovative, resourceful, and possess strong leadership skills while also being comfortable working in a fast-paced and fluid environment.

The Vice President for Student Success will initially supervise a staff of 80, including the [Office of Completion and Student Success](#), the [Office of University Student Services and Systems](#), and an Assistant

Vice President charged with University-wide strategy and planning in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The seven student affairs leaders on the University's campuses, who report to campus academic leadership, will add dotted-line reports to the portfolio of the VPSS.

The Vice President for Student Success will work in close collaboration with IU's academic leadership, including the Executive Vice President and IU Bloomington Provost, the Executive Vice President and IUPUI Chancellor, and the Chancellors of the five regional campuses. The VPSS will also work closely and collaboratively with leadership of University-wide and campus-specific student services, including the offices responsible for student financial services; student health, wellness, and counseling; student disability services; student conduct; student diversity and inclusion; international student services; and residential life.

Key Priorities of the Vice President for Student Success

- Evaluate organizational structures, policies, programs, and practices across IU's campuses based on the priorities of the University and the changing needs of students in higher education
- Develop strategic initiatives related to student life or student conduct that will meaningfully advance the student experience and remove barriers to students' personal and academic success
- As a member of IU's senior leadership team, advocate for the student interest and perspective in all aspects of decision making
- Foster collaboration and innovation to ensure a student-centered environment on all campuses
- Promote a flourishing and connected University-wide student community

Key Responsibilities of the Vice President for Student Success

- Convening and providing leadership for student affairs leaders from all campuses to elevate and strengthen the student experience, including through sharing of best practices, problem-solving, and building and supporting community
- Providing leadership on cross-campus policy and resource issues, including convening appropriate colleagues to implement short-term strategies and long-term solutions when issues arise with University-wide impact
- Understanding and providing strategic guidance on the changing dynamics within the University and higher education more generally, with flexibility and capacity to both address current needs and envision, develop, and implement future-oriented planning and projects
- Advising the President on all policies and issues related to student success

Key Attributes of the Vice President for Student Success

- Student-centered, highly motivated leader with a deep knowledge of student life issues, best practices, and future trends in the areas of student success and student well-being
- Adept at building consensus among multiple stakeholders on complex issues
- Have a successful track record in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Care deeply about the student experience at the macro-level
- Proactive thinker who can understand and address large-scale systems challenges
- Strong management, organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills

Preferred Experience

- Change management and implementation
- Leadership role within a complex, decentralized University
- Successful history of staff recruitment, development, and team building; including a demonstrated commitment to building and supporting a richly diverse staff
- An advanced degree

For best consideration, please send all nominations and applications to: IUVPSS@storbecksearch.com. Applications should include a resume and a letter of interest.



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Equal Employment Opportunity

Indiana University is an equal employment and affirmative action employer and a provider of ADA services. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment based on individual qualifications. Indiana University prohibits discrimination based on age, ethnicity, color, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, disability status or protected veteran status. Indiana University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities, including employment and admission, as required by Title IX. Questions or complaints regarding Title IX may be referred to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights or the university Title IX Coordinator.

[See Indiana University's Notice of Non-Discrimination here which includes contact information.](#)

Campus Safety and Security

The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, containing policy statements, crime and fire statistics for all Indiana University campuses, is [available online](#). You may also request a physical copy by emailing IU Public Safety at iups@iu.edu or by visiting IUPD.