

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Kate Stuard

309-533-2206

kstuard@che.in.gov

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, October 3, 2018

## Indiana Commission for Higher Education earns Centric Innovation Award

The <u>Indiana Commission for Higher Education</u> announces today that ScholarTrack was named a 2018 Indiana Innovation Award winner by Centric, Inc.

ScholarTrack is a comprehensive platform that seamlessly guides Hoosier students and their families through the process of planning for, applying and maintaining their state financial aid—beginning as early as middle school and continuing through college completion. Since all state financial aid information is housed in ScholarTrack, the information does not have to travel between databases, meaning it is always up to date and accurate.

"ScholarTrack has completely revolutionized the way Hoosier students, parents and schools manage state financial aid," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers. "Our team has worked hard to build this platform and we are proud to be recognized for our efforts."

In 2013, the Indiana General Assembly passed a bill revamping the method in which financial aid eligibility would be determined. In order to comply, the Commission began work on what would eventually become ScholarTrack, which officially launched in February 2017. In its inaugural award year, ScholarTrack has assisted the Commission in awarding 70,000 students over \$300 million in state financial aid.

Established in 2011, the Indiana Innovation Awards seek to recognize ten individuals and organizations who are successfully leading the innovation charge in our state. ScholarTrack was selected from a record 56 finalists representing a cross-sector of Indiana industries.

All 2018 Indiana Innovation Award winners will be celebrated at Centric's Day of Innovation conference on Oct. 11, 2018 at Butler University. To learn more about the awards, please visit <a href="www.centricindiana.org/awards">www.centricindiana.org/awards</a>.

###

## **About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education**

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is a 14-member public body created in 1971 to define the missions of Indiana's colleges and universities, plan and coordinate the state's postsecondary education system, and ensure that Indiana's higher education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. The Commission includes representatives from each Congressional district, three at-large members, a college faculty representative and a college student representative. Learn more about the Commission's *Reaching Higher*, *Delivering Value* strategic plan at <a href="https://www.in.gov/che/">www.in.gov/che/</a>.

## **About Centric, Inc.**

Centric is a 501c3 nonprofit that connects, educates and celebrates the people doing the innovating. Centric exists to increase the recognition of Indiana as a global center of innovation. We achieve this by equipping individuals and organizations with the critical thinking skills needed to drive innovation forward. Learn more at <u>centricindiana.org</u>.