



NEWS RELEASE

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USI, IVY TECH TEMPORARILY RESOLVE ISSUES OF RECIPROCITY WITH KENTUCKY

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Assistance will be given to new students who had planned to enter University of Southern Indiana and Ivy Tech-Evansville under the reciprocal tuition agreement between Kentucky and Indiana. At a joint news conference today, officials of the University of Southern Indiana and Indiana Vocational Technical College - Evansville announced that, working in concert with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, they will extend reciprocal status for only the fall semester to students who have been accepted for fall semester, but who have not already registered; new students already registered will have reciprocal status for the academic year.

Earlier this week, following the renegotiation of the agreement, which was approved by the Kentucky Council for Higher Education, it was announced that no new students from the Kentucky counties of Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, and Union would be eligible for reciprocal status, which allows for a waiver of out-of-state fees at participating Indiana institutions. The decision to restrict the participants was made in an attempt to bring into closer balance the numbers of students from each state. During the last academic year, there were 468 Kentucky students attending USI and Ivy Tech, and 192 Indiana students attending Henderson and Owensboro Community Colleges. When the first reciprocal agreement was struck, officials of both states felt the student flow would be fairly even. Indiana officials calculate that the severe imbalance in flow is estimated to cost the State of Indiana \$1,000,000, and recommended that immediate steps be taken to bring the numbers closer together.

Dr. H. Ray Hoops, president of the University of Southern Indiana said, "We have made commitments to students who have been accepted for the academic year, and we intend to honor those commitments. At the same time, we intend to work with the Commission for Higher Education to bring about the necessary balance. The Commission for Higher Education was understanding of our commitments, and has authorized both USI and Ivy Tech to extend reciprocal status to students who already are preregistered. Students who have been accepted for fall semester, but who have not registered yet will have reciprocal status for the fall semester only," he said.

Mr. Dan Schenk, executive dean of Ivy Tech, said, "We hope that during the year other opportunities for exchange of students will be in place and greater balance in the student flow will allow the program to be extended."

Officials of both institutions said that the benefits of the reciprocal arrangement will not be extended to students making contact with the institutions after July 14. Both Dr. Hoops and Mr. Schenk extended appreciation to Indiana officials for working with their campuses to allow the extensions to students previously accepted for entry this fall. They said they will be communicating with continuing students and new applicants to clarify the terms of the reciprocal agreement.