

# SLACKING OFF?

## 3 Reasons to Finish Strong Your Senior Year

**S**KIPPING SCHOOL, SLEEPING through classes, taking an easy schedule—all part of senior year, right? Wrong!

Senior year is way too important. No matter what your plans—college, military service, an apprenticeship, career training—senior year is really preparation for whatever comes next. You need to focus on the following:

**Senior grades count.** Ninety percent of Indiana colleges want to see your senior schedule before granting admission. College admissions offices want to see your final semester grades, too. Finish that extra year of math and you'll increase your chance of college success by a whopping 73 percent.

**Beat the Odds.** Here's a shocking fact: Only 36 percent of Indiana students who start college finish in four years. Sadly, the majority of students haven't laid the proper groundwork by taking school seriously, developing good study habits, and thinking carefully about their ultimate career goals.

Be one of the students who finish college on time. Work on your study and note-taking skills. Getting into those habits now will make adjustment to college much easier.

**Be Competitive.** You probably know that times are tough. No matter what you do after high school, there will be a lot of competition. You need to show that you are responsible. Get to school on time every day, do your work and do it well. Be a leader in an activity or sport you enjoy or find a new extracurricular pastime. Find a part-time job, a volunteer opportunity or an internship to get experience.

## College Go! Week

**Get ready:** College Go! Week is coming. In October, Indiana students will participate in activities designed to help them make decisions about what they'll be doing after high school. Fill out an application for college, an apprenticeship or for the armed forces—College Go! Week will have you focused on the future.



## Ready To Give Up? Don't.

If it's senior year and your high school experience hasn't been the best, don't give up. And don't drop out. Talk to your school counselor about how you can get back on track. It's time to face the future honestly and get your act together. It might not be easy, but it definitely beats the alternative: not graduating, or not getting into the college or career of your choice.