About Us

The Balfour Scholars Program (BSP) is a project of the Center for P-16 Research and Collaboration (P-16 Center) within the School of Education at Indiana University Bloomington (IUB). BSP is supported by a grant from the Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee. BSP’s main objective is to increase higher education access and success for underrepresented minority students wherever they choose to attend. BSP is a student-centered outreach and wrap-around support program that provides underrepresented minority students with a continuum of support. The program begins with the Pre-College Academy, a free academy for current high school juniors. It is designed to help them cultivate their academic, career, and personal development as well as minimize misperceptions about affordability. It helps to reduce the unfamiliarity with postsecondary education, and the difficulties with cultural adjustment that prevent students from successfully enrolling and graduating from college. Balfour scholars continue to receive support throughout their senior year of high school including assistance with college applications, scholarships, time management skills, and other college transitional topics.

BSP 2013-15 Cohort Accomplishments

• Seven Scholars currently reside in the Atkins Learning Living Center (LLC).
• Ramir Williams (BSP 2014) was elected as President of the Atkins LLC.
• Jermaine Williams (BSP 2014) was accepted into an internship with TV/Radio Services. Also, he is the Co-Chair of the Atkins LLC Talent Showcase.
• Quentin Beverly (BSP 2014) was directly admitted into the Jacobs School of Music along with becoming the Co-Chair of the Atkins Showcase Committee.
• Evan Brown (BSP 2014) was selected for the Kelley School of Business Dean Council Scholarship.

2015 Textbook Scholarship Winners

Alondra Galvan
Austin Smith
Estefani Alcaraz Quevedo
Xochitl Haro
Bibi Alas-Ruiz
Connor Richardson

BSP will announce the Spring 2016 textbook scholarship winners soon.

Want more info?

E-mail: Balfour@indiana.edu
Telephone: 812-856-8233
Website: www.education.indiana.edu/balfour

For more information about the program and deadlines see our website.
**Words of Wisdom**

A major topic discussed throughout the Balfour Pre-College Academy is personal identity. Identity is about who one is and how one will act. Education for people is first and foremost about identity and its formation. The academic skills and knowledge gained through education both inside and outside the classroom are essential to your identity formation. They inform your ability to evaluate and absorb new knowledge. These years are both an exciting and fearful period. It is okay to be apprehensive—everybody, is or at least they should be if they are honest with themselves! You are inheriting the responsibility of defining who you are and how you will think, feel, and act for a lifetime. Essentially, your identity is yours for the making. Identity formation involves trials and errors, risk and restraint, responsibility and obligation and most of all attention. So set your sights very high for your education, Balfour Scholars, and push hard to achieve academic success. Always know that the Balfour staff is here as an additional resource, so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or desire assistance.

*Take care,*

Dr. Christina Wright Fields, Balfour Scholars Program Director

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**Balfour 2015-16 Interns**

- **Daunyai Cox**
  - Programming
- **Alondra Galvan**
  - Parent Engagement
- **Taylor Harris**
  - Global Initiatives & Leadership
- **Ephraim Nderito**
  - Research
- **Estefani Alcaraz Quevedo**
  - Database Manager & Social Media
- **Ramir Williams**
  - Public Relations
- **Carlie Yancey**
  - Fundraising

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**Events**

- **Stress Free:** March 3, 2016
  - Prepared for midterms with tutors & food.
- **Apollo Showcase:** April 2, 2016
  - Co-sponsor of Atkins LLC showcase.
- **True Colors:** April 6, 2016
  - Find out about your personality at this fun event.

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**Benefits of Balfour**

- Information given about FAFSA and other sources of funding.
- A better understanding of identity, both academically & culturally.
- Gaining a network of mentors.
- Connections made with IU’s campus resources.

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**Counselor’s Thoughts**

I believe that Balfour is very beneficial, and that there is a definite need for the program. The students who attended came back excited and informed about college and what would be needed to get there. In addition to being exposed to potential college programs they also got an experience that went far beyond a tour. For those days they truly lived like college students. The Balfour Scholars program increases student access and success by raising awareness about who they are as individuals and their character. Due to this they come back excited and ready for their senior year knowing what they are working towards. I will continue to happily recommend my students for the program, and help other counselors do the same!

*– Mary Haynie (Purdue University Calumet, Educational Talent Search, High School Counselor)*

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**How to Donate**

Visit Balfour’s website & click on the Donate Now button. Or

1) Go to www.myiu.org
2) Click Give now
3) Select Make a Gift
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5) Select Balfour Fund & hit next
6) Enter Desired Amount
7) Hit next & fill out necessary info