



Indy Reads
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Indy Reads Starting New High School Equivalency Program

Indianapolis, IN — (June 16, 2020) In July, Indy Reads will be adding free High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma classes to an existing suite of adult literacy, English language, and workforce training programs.

The organization's commitment to serve adult learners now includes those who do not have a high school diploma.

In Marion County, that's over 14% of adults and 86,000 people—numbers that show a significant community need. The current job market with a dramatic increase in unemployment due to the pandemic, means higher competition for less jobs.

"It has become clear now, more than ever, that many of our students need to earn a High School Equivalency diploma, or HSE diploma," said CEO Ryan King, of the credential formerly known as the GED. "With the economy reopening, the competition for jobs will be fierce. We want to help make sure those that do not have a high school diploma aren't left behind."

The innovative HSE program was built from Indy Reads' 30 plus years of experience teaching adult learners. The teacher-led classes are supported by a team of volunteers and AmeriCorps members.

Students will need to attend an orientation held July 21st, 22nd, and 23rd prior to starting classes. Classes start on Monday, July 27th.

To get more information about our HSE program and sign up for orientations, visit [**indyreads.org/programs**](https://indyreads.org/programs).

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About Indy Reads

Indy Reads builds literacy, English language, and job readiness skills to empower adults and families to reach their full potential. For over 30 years, we've worked toward a vision of 100% literacy for all. High literacy levels give access to greater developmental, educational, and career opportunities, but current statistics show that 1 in 6 adults in Indiana read at or below a fifth-grade level. Through the Community Classrooms literacy program Indy Reads helps adult learners increase their literacy and English language proficiency, prepare for the High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma, and workforce development programs help improve employment opportunities for adults of all literacy skill levels. To learn more about Indy Reads visit indyreads.org.