

2025 Institute for Chief Academics Officers with  
Chief Student Affairs Officers and Chief Student Success Officers  
November 1–4, 2025 🗝️ JW Marriott, Indianapolis, IN



Building Places  
of Promise:  
**Unlocking**  
Student  
Success



The Council of  
Independent Colleges

# Call for Sponsors

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This year's theme, "Building Places of Promise: Unlocking Student Success," will focus on strengthening student success through a holistic, mission-driven approach that addresses the complete student experience from pre-enrollment through graduation. It will prioritize understanding who students are and what they bring to campus, fostering environments that promote psychological safety and belonging, and making inclusive excellence a practical reality instead of just a concept. The Institute will emphasize cross-departmental collaboration, particularly between academic and student affairs, to develop integrated programming that serves the whole student and intentionally prepares them for career readiness. It will help institutions demonstrate their value proposition by aligning campus outcomes with student expectations and measuring success through meaningful metrics that tell a compelling story to stakeholders. Through this comprehensive framework, the Institute aims to revitalize higher education's fundamental purpose: building strong institutions that produce successful students who benefit their communities and the nation.

This year, along with chief academic officers CIC invites chief student affairs officers and chief student success officers—including chief diversity officers; belonging, inclusion and culture officers; teaching and learning center professionals; and career services professionals—to participate.

## About CIC

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CIC is an association of more than 700 nonprofit independent colleges and universities, state-based councils of independent colleges, and other higher education affiliates.

### **CIC has a threefold mission:**

- Supporting and developing campus leaders
- Advancing the excellence of member institutions
- Enhancing public understanding of the contributions independent higher education makes to society

## The Annual Institute for Chief Academic Officers and Its Unique Audience

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The Institute for Chief Academic Officers is CIC's annual event for provosts, deans, and academic vice presidents. Of all the national annual meetings for this group, CIC's four-day conference continues to be the largest. Each year, CIC invites an additional group of senior administrators to the Institute.

This year, chief academic officers will be joined by chief student affairs officers and other leaders who support student success. When similar campus roles were invited to the 2021 Institute, 280 chief academic officers, 109 chief student affairs officers, 58 chief diversity officers, and 137 other administrators participated.

# Participation Highlights

The 2024 Institute included over 232 chief academic officers and over 190 other academic administrators.

538

Total Attendees

246

Total Institutions

42

States Represented

3

Countries Represented  
(Canada, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia)

## Geographic Regions of Institutions in Attendance

Midwest	33%
Southeast	24%
West	14%
Far West	13%
Mid Atlantic	12%
New England	4%

## Institution Enrollment Size and Attendance

Institutions under 1,000	24% of attendees
Institutions of 1,000–2,000	40% of attendees
Institutions of 2,001–3,000	19% of attendees
Institutions over 3,000	17% of attendees

## Time in Role for Institute Participants

0–1 Year	29.5%
2–4 Years	46.3%
5–7 Years	14.7%
8–10 Years	2.1%
11 or More Years	7.4%

# CIC's Sponsor Experience

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CIC greatly values our partnerships with Institute sponsors and the benefit they provide to member institutions. Our goal is to provide multiple opportunities to sponsors to network, connect face to face, and share their expertise with the leaders of CIC member colleges and universities. Here is what sponsors can expect:

- **Attend Sessions**

Our sponsors are viewed as full participants in the Institute. Sponsor representatives are encouraged to participate in nearly all aspects of the conference, including plenary, concurrent, and discussion sessions.

- **Promote Your Firm**

Sponsor display tables are placed in high-traffic areas rather than a separate exhibit hall with limited visiting hours. Sponsors are encouraged to connect with participants during networking breaks at the Institute.

- **Share Your Expertise**

All sponsors have the opportunity to share their expertise one-on-one with participants throughout the conference; if selected some sponsors may qualify to facilitate a program opportunity (a concurrent session or a roundtable discussion). Concurrent sessions must be interactive and informative and must include panelists from at least two CIC institutions. The call for proposals will be sent out in late April with details about program requirements. These proposals will be evaluated by the senior vice president for academic programs.

- **Network with Institutional Leaders**

Sponsors are encouraged to attend breakfasts, lunches, receptions, and other social events throughout the Institute to make or build connections; connect directly with participants through CIC's Institute mobile app which allows sponsors to send messages and schedule meetings with participants.

- **Get Exposure**

Sponsors are recognized in digital event materials, including the Institute app, and throughout the event space.

- **Build Relationships with CIC Leadership**

The Institute includes opportunities for face-to-face discussion with CIC's senior leadership team at the invite-only Sponsor Reception and throughout the conference.

- **Host Your Own Event**

The second and third nights of the annual Institute for Chief Academic Officers are left open to all participants and sponsors are encouraged to host their own receptions or dinners for Institute participants.

# Benefits of Sponsorship

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All sponsors, regardless of the level of support, will receive the following benefits:

- **Complimentary Registration**

One complimentary sponsor registration (including all meal functions); additional individuals from the sponsoring organization may participate by paying the member-rate registration fee. See sponsorship levels for details.

- **Institute Website and Institute App Visibility**

Recognition on CIC's Institute for Chief Academic Officers' dedicated sponsor webpage, as well as the Institute app, with name, logo, 100-word description, and hyperlink to the sponsor's website.

- **Conference Promotions**

Acknowledgment of sponsor in email communication prior to the Institute, logo recognition during walk-in slides at plenaries, and listing in the digital program in the Institute app.

- **NEW**

As a sponsor of the Institute for Chief Academic Officers, you will receive a complimentary one-year subscription starting in December 2025 to CIC's Solution Center, a year-round virtual exhibit for the independent college sector. Here we are cataloguing vendors who provide services to member institutions. With this opportunity you will receive:

- Courtesy subscription tier based on sponsorship level
- Assignment of "sponsor" filter and tag
- Priority listing in searches

CIC shares information about listings regularly in communications to members, including marketing the Solution Center in CIC's popular listservs.



# Sponsorship Levels

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## PREMIER

Exclusive Opportunity

### You'll Receive

- Two in-person program opportunities, including at least one concurrent session
  - Named Opportunity: Sponsor signage recognition at one event during the Institute, to be determined by CIC
  - Hotel key card with sponsor logo and message provided to all participants staying at the JW Marriott
  - Private room provided for one-on-one consultations, if requested
  - Seven complimentary sponsor registrations plus three additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of ten registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
  - One banner ad, with hyperlink, featured in the Institute app on a rotating basis
  - Spotlight (60-second, on-demand video) and expanded sponsor page with digital resources listed in the Institute app
  - Participant list for one-time use, prior to the Institute
  - Up to ten-foot display table in a prominent location
  - Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference app
  - Company logo on event signage
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## SIGNATURE

Exclusive Opportunity

### You'll Receive

- Two in-person program opportunities, including at least one concurrent session
- Named Opportunity: Sponsor signage recognition at one event during the Institute, to be determined by CIC
- Private room provided for one-on-one consultations, if requested
- Five complimentary sponsor registrations plus three additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of eight registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
- One banner ad, with hyperlink, featured in the Institute app on a rotating basis
- Spotlight (60-second, on-demand video) and expanded sponsor page with digital resources listed in the Institute app
- Participant list for one-time use, prior to the Institute
- Up to ten-foot display table in a prominent location
- Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
- Company logo on event signage

# Sponsorship Levels

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## DISTINGUISHED

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- Named Opportunity: Sponsor signage recognition at one event during the Institute, to be determined by CIC
  - Three complimentary sponsor registrations plus three additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of six registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
  - One banner ad, with hyperlink, featured in the Institute app on a rotating basis
  - Spotlight (60-second, on-demand video) and expanded sponsor page with digital resources listed in the Institute app
  - Participant list for one-time use, prior to the Institute
  - Six-foot display table in a prominent location
  - Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
  - Company logo on event signage
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## PATRON (\$15,000 minimum)

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- Named Opportunity: Sponsor signage recognition at one event during the Institute, to be determined by CIC
- Three complimentary sponsor registrations plus two additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of five registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
- Spotlight (60-second, on-demand video) and expanded sponsor page with one digital resource listed in the Institute app
- Participant list for one-time use, prior to the Institute
- Six-foot display table in a prominent location
- Company logo, description and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
- Company logo on event signage



# Sponsorship Levels

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## BENEFACTOR

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- Two complimentary sponsor registrations plus three additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of five registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
  - Spotlight (60-second, on-demand video) and expanded sponsor page with one digital resource listed in the Institute app
  - Participant list for one-time use, prior to the Institute
  - Six-foot display table in a prominent location
  - Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
  - Company logo on event signage
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## MAJOR

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- Two complimentary sponsor registrations plus two additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of four registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
  - Six-foot display table in a prominent location
  - Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
  - Company logo on event signage
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## CONTRIBUTOR

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- One complimentary sponsor registration plus two additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of three registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
- Six-foot display table in a prominent location
- Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
- Company logo on event signage



# Sponsorship Levels

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## SUPPORTER

Multiple Opportunities

### You'll Receive

- One complimentary sponsor registration plus two additional sponsor registrations at the CIC member rate (\$900). Maximum of three registrations. Registrations cannot be substituted or transferred.
- Company logo, description, and URL listed on conference website and in conference mobile app
- Company logo on event signage

**Note:** There is no display table provided at this level. Sponsors are encouraged to attend sessions and other social events to make the most of your sponsorship.

# Add-On Opportunity to Above Sponsorship Levels

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## CONFERENCE WI-FI SPONSORSHIP

Exclusive Opportunity

### You'll Receive

- Company name as Wi-Fi password for use in conference rooms with redirect to sponsor website (character limitations apply)
- Company logo on conference signage
- Wi-Fi information in the Institute app
- Wi-Fi information on the general session opening slide

# Important Deadlines

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Sponsorships are limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please note the following deadlines:

- Full sponsor payment must be received no later than **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**. If payment is not received, your sponsorship will be subject to forfeiture.
- Based on your sponsorship level, you will receive the participant list only if sponsorship payments are made in full by **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**.
- If you have a new company logo or have a new company description, those must be received by **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**, to be included in any conference materials. No changes or revisions will be accepted after this date.
- The deadline for all sponsor participant registrations is **Monday, September 29, 2025**. After this date, no substitutions or changes will be honored. All requests must be made in writing prior to the start of the Institute.
- **NEW:** Request for sponsorship cancellation must be received in writing no later than **Monday, September 29, 2025**. Cancellations after this date will incur a 25 percent cancellation fee.

# Display Table Hours

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- Set Up: **Saturday, November 1**, from noon until 3:00 p.m.
  - Tear Down: **Tuesday, November 4**, at 10:45 a.m.\*
- \* Tables must remain intact until 10:30 a.m. on November 4. Tables dismantled prior to this time will be subject to forfeiture of participation for the following year's program.

# Additional Deadlines

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- Premier Sponsor: Hotel key card logos and message for the card must be received by **Tuesday, September 16, 2025**.
- Premier, Signature, and Distinguished Sponsors: Banner ads and hyperlinks must be received by **Friday, September 19, 2025**.
- Premier, Signature, Distinguished, Patron, and Benefactor Sponsors: Spotlight videos must be received by **Friday, September 19, 2025**.

# Hotel Information

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JW Marriott Indianapolis  
10 S West Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(317) 860-5800  
[Hotel Website](#)



## Save the Date

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### JOIN US NEXT YEAR

2026 Institute for Chief Academic Officers  
November 7–10, 2026  
Baltimore, Maryland

Along with CAOs, the following groups will meet: Chief Advancement Officers, Chief Marketing/Communication Officers, Chief Financial Officers, and Chief Enrollment Managers. Workshops for New CAOs and Experienced CAOs.

To learn more, please contact:  
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or (202) 552-8987