

5 Tips for the Future College Student

Ask any high school junior or senior about their plans after graduation and the response is often much less specific than most parents would prefer to hear. But as one school year quickly transitions to another, key opportunities for prospective college students and their families to stay on track with advance planning seem to come and go quickly during the proverbial lazy, hazy days of summer.

According to experts at Purdue University Fort Wayne, summer break is not only a great time to relax with family and friends, it's also an outstanding chance for members of the new senior class to review their paths to higher education and take advantage of the resources universities continue to provide during July and August.

Krissy Surface, Purdue Fort Wayne's vice chancellor for enrollment management and the student

experience, recommends five best practices for students who want to avoid some of the added stress of college planning once their high school classes resume.

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Sophomore in PFW's School of Music Draws on Her Strengths to Grow as a Musician

On a rainy Friday night in a small-town coffeehouse 15 miles from the campus of Purdue University Fort Wayne, Hailee Richmond is singing her heart out. It doesn't matter that there's only a handful of friends listening, because Richmond sings from her soul, belting out ballads, rock standards, and even a folk tune or two.

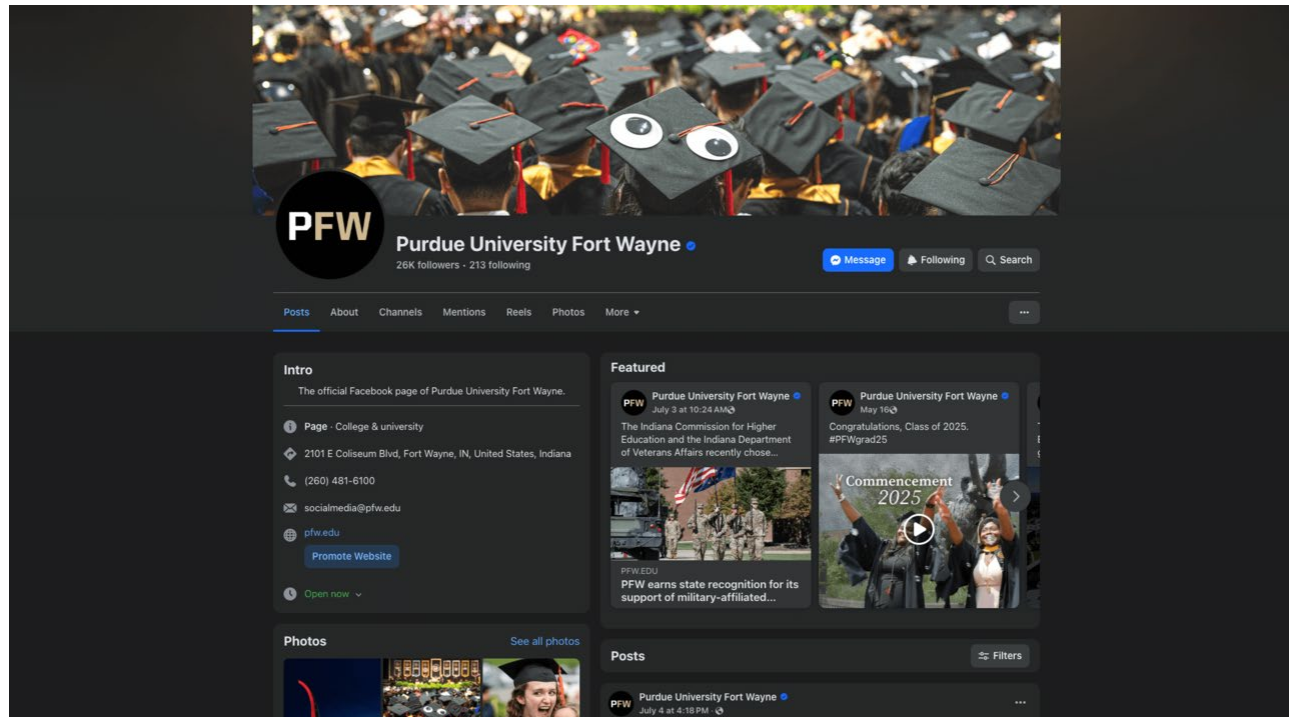
Some may mess around for fun in the studio trying to match note-for-note the powerful ranges of Adele or Freddie Mercury, but not too many have the confidence to attempt the feat during a live, paying performance. But Richmond isn't daunted, artfully and gracefully covering Adele's signature "Rolling in the Deep" to end a two-hour set that even prompts applause from the establishment's employees.

Recently completing just her sophomore year at PFW, Richmond is already one of the top performers on campus as a solo artist and the lead singer of the student band Punching Lucky. Though having played only one solo gig before arriving in Fort Wayne, she was quickly picked to

be part of two bands as a guitarist.

"There wasn't anybody at first who was like, 'Hey, would you like to be a singer?' because that was just a role that I was not experienced with or ready for," Richmond said. "I was much happier to be on bass or guitar in the bands and to just learn from other people who knew more than me. Now, I love it, but it was definitely something I had to grow into."

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Remember to Like and Repost PFW Positives on Social Media

Interested in sharing good news about Purdue Fort Wayne? Looking for positive ways to help the university ramp up its engagement with the community—including prospective students?

PFW's flagship social media channels are not only great for staying informed on an individual level, they're also very convenient when it comes to sharing information with connections outside of the PFW circle who are interested in you and what makes you proud.

If you're not already, follow PFW on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **X**, and **YouTube** to be in the know, dive deeper, hear from students and faculty on their PFW experiences, and see plenty of those amazing campus photos that serve as a reminder of what makes this place special. Better yet, like and repost that great content and/or generate some of your own!

Still not sure what social media is all about, or just looking to enhance one of the channels your college, school, or unit hosts? Email **socialmedia@pfw.edu** to learn more.

Good to Know

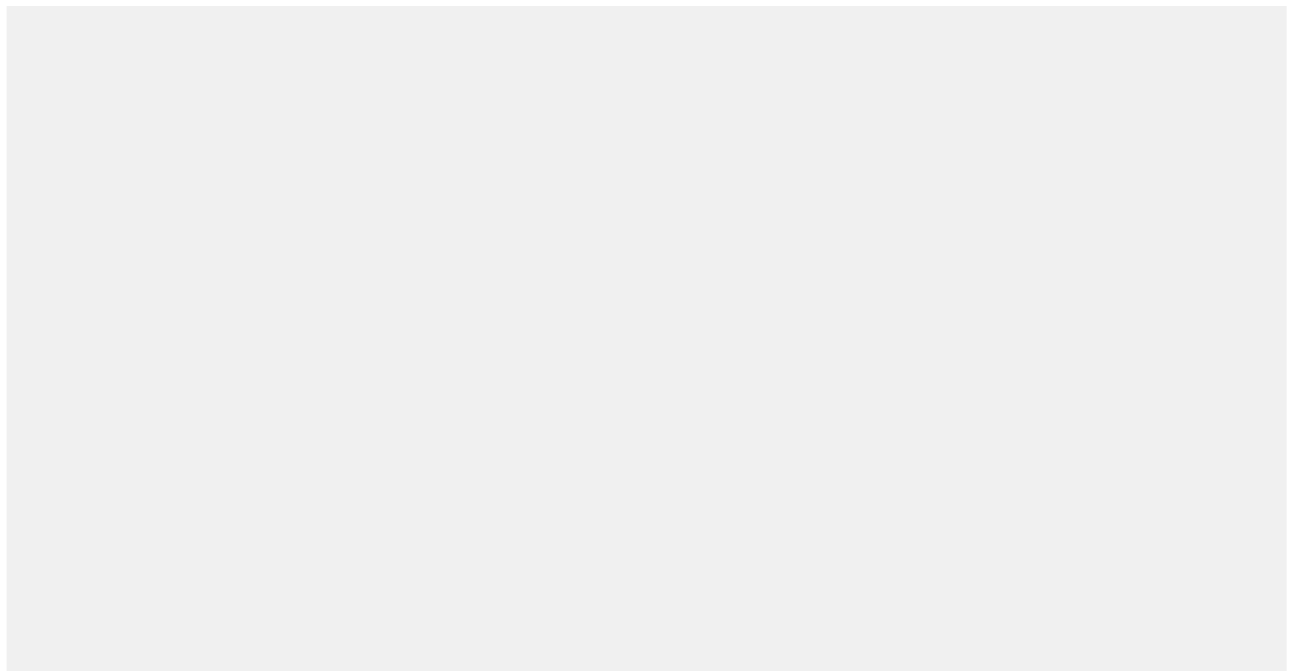
PFW Finishes Spring Season No. 21 in NCL Cyber Power Rankings

Based on individual and team competition, Purdue University Fort Wayne finished 21st out of 510 colleges and universities participating in the National Cyber League's spring 2025 season. That's up from 34th during the fall 2024 campaign, and second only to Purdue West Lafayette among the Indiana teams that competed. The National Cyber League, powered by Cyber Skyline, is a cybersecurity skills competition that contains real-world cybersecurity tasks that professionals perform on a daily basis.

According to NCL, students who compete reinforce their learning and develop the necessary skills for the workforce. They also earn a skills report that recognizes their abilities, which can be shown to an employer to demonstrate readiness for the job, further bridging the gap from curriculum to careers. More than 9,216 students participated in the NCL this spring.

In a Snap

Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.





A camper examines a myriad of parts as he proceeds to build an apparatus that launches foam darts. Children are getting introduced to the world of engineering this week in a fun and interactive way at the Future Leaders of T.E.C. summer exploration camp, led by a team from the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science.

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