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**Manchester College partners with Questa Foundation in loan payback program for Allen County students**

Questa Foundation for Education and Manchester College are partnering to help Allen County students graduate with less debt and retain intellectual capital in northeast Indiana.

Under the agreement, up to 75 percent of Questa Foundation loans to Allen County students would be forgiven, if those students graduate with at least a 2.75 GPA and live and work in northeast Indiana for at least five years after receiving their Manchester College diploma.

The Questa Scholars 1/2 Back Loan Program enables qualified graduates from Allen County high schools to borrow up to \$20,000, over four years, for college. Questa will forgive up to 50 percent of the loans if the students meet the GPA, and post-graduate employment and residency requirements. Manchester College will pay back an additional 25 percent of the loan on behalf of its Questa Scholar graduates.

Five Questa Scholars currently attend Manchester College and are eligible for the loan payback program. Under the agreement, future Questa Scholars also will benefit from the loan payback offer, said Christina K. Smith, executive director of the Questa Foundation for Education.

“We are pleased to be a partner with Questa Foundation in making higher education affordable for Allen County students, and in helping them discover the living and career opportunities right here in northeast Indiana,” said Dr. Jo Young Switzer, president of the 1,223-student independent college just west of Allen County.

“The Questa Foundation-Manchester College partnership will provide valuable financial assistance to Allen County students who aspire to Manchester’s high quality educational programs while providing attractive incentives for these well trained graduates to remain in northeast Indiana,” said Smith. “We are grateful to President Switzer for her visionary leadership in forging this partnership with us.”

For more information about the loan payback agreement, contact Manchester College at 800-852-3648 or Questa Foundation at 260-407-6494.

Questa Foundation for Education, based in Allen County, is committed to expanding the educational opportunities and financial freedom of Allen County students with financial need by providing affordable college loans and generous scholarships that reward academic success and retain graduates in northeast Indiana. For more about Questa Foundation for Education, visit [www.questafoundation.org](http://www.questafoundation.org).

Manchester offers enrollment initiatives focused on making college affordable for Hoosier families. In September, the College awarded more than \$1.1 million in additional aid to 600 of its neediest students after the State of Indiana unexpectedly announced a 31 percent cut in state aid for college students.

The College also offers a three-year bachelor’s degree and a Triple Guarantee of financial aid for all students, a degree in four years and a job within six months of graduation also helped build the record class. For more about attending Manchester College, visit [www.manchester.edu](http://www.manchester.edu).

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