Who We Are

Mission
The Wright State University Independent Scholars Network exists to provide resources and services which enhance the academic and social-cultural experiences of a student who emancipates from foster care into higher education.

Vision
Wright State University will be known as a national model for transforming the lives of Independent Scholars as they prepare to participate in and engage with diverse and global communities around the world.

For More Information
Students and foster families can get more information by calling (937) 775-2808.
Offering Support to Students from Foster Care

The Wright State University Independent Scholars Network (ISN) is a program for admitted Wright State University students who have been impacted by foster care. This program offers a bridge to students who emancipate from foster care or disengage from the adoption process into their new home at Wright State. ISN offers a wide range of services, including help with living arrangements and employment opportunities. Assistance and referrals are offered in the following areas:

Campus Resources
- Admissions
- Financial Aid
- Registrar
- Bursar
- Residence Services
- Support Services
- Disability Services
- Counseling & Wellness Services
- Student Health Services
- Career Services
- Student Activities & Leadership
- Living & Learning Communities
- Community Partnerships

We Value:

Students We value students and will carefully identify services and support to match individual needs.

Achievement We value achievement and recognize that students are unique and will rise to meet and exceed standards of excellence on an individual basis.

Engagement We value engaging students at every level of their higher education academic experience.

Meet a Wright State Independent Scholar

“When I aged out of the foster system, I moved straight to Wright State. Being a former foster child, I had nowhere to go during breaks. See, we’re not allowed to go back to where we were. Dan Bertsos (director, Residence Services) and others at Wright State helped me to be sure I always had someplace to stay. They saw things in me I couldn’t see. I’ve learned a lot about myself and have become a leader, helping other foster kids find their way to college and to break the cycle of foster care.”

Adrian M. McLemore
Political Science major

ISN Programmatic Elements

Year 1: Moving In, Campus Connections & Transformation
- Building Bridges—The University Community and “U”
- Academic Support
- Life Skills
- Employment on Campus—Preparing for the Future

Year 2: Networking & Leadership
- Academic Support
- Leadership & Ambassadorship
- Service Learning
- Goal Setting & Career Orientation and Exploration
- Building Bridges—Networking with the External Community
- Exploring International Study Abroad Opportunities

Year 3: Global Connectedness
- Academics—Preparing for Continuing Education & Graduate School
- Building Leadership Skills in Student Organizations
- Your International Connection
- Professional Internships & Practicum Experiences

Year 4: Moving On!
- Visioning and Creating the Pathway to the Future!
- Emphasis on Career Services (Internships, Practicums, Externships, Resumes, and Interviewing)
- Exploring Where Do I Professionally Fit In?
- Preparing for the Graduate School/GRE/MCAT/MAT/LSAT Experience
- Employment vs. Careers