

ISU Student, Faculty, and Staff,

April 1, 2020, is United States Census Day, an important day for Terre Haute and communities across the nation. Between April 1 and mid-summer, the U.S. Census Bureau will count everyone currently living in the United States, including University students, through a brief, confidential survey. The census also counts citizens of foreign countries that are living in the U.S., including international students.

Information about the census, including a link to complete it, is available at: <https://2020census.gov/>.

### **Why is this important?**

Annually, more than \$675 billion in federal money is distributed to state and local governments, based on census counts. When you complete the census, you help determine Pell Grant funding, school lunch programs, job training program funding, health funding, public transportation funding, and development of critical infrastructure. The count also determines Congressional seats and state and local legislative district mapping. A complete census count is critical for Terre Haute, Vigo County and the State of Indiana to receive federal resources that improve the quality of life for all of us.

### **How does relocation because of COVID-19 affect the census?**

The U.S. Census Bureau has provided straightforward guidance. Students that normally live at school should be counted at school, even if they are temporarily living with parents or elsewhere due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ISU students that have been living in Terre Haute this semester will primarily fall into three categories.

### **What are those categories?**

- **On-campus residents that have lived in the residence halls, 500 Wabash and University Apartments:** The University will respond for this group through the "Group Quarters Operation." You do not need to do anything.
- **Students that normally live with their parents during the academic year:** You should be counted with your parents' household.
- **Students that normally live in an apartment or house off-campus alone or with roommates:** You should complete the census using the normal address you use while at school. If you are a member of this group, please take a minute and complete the census.

Indiana State University has a commitment to community service rivaled by few institutions in the nation. While we are being asked to stay at home, many of us miss the opportunities to serve that have become a normal part of life at ISU. One easy thing that all of us can do to serve our community and state is complete the census. Your community is counting on you!

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