Are your Candidates INdorsed as Career-Ready Graduates?

Have you ever thought that new college graduates aren't as prepared for the workforce as you would like them to be? Do you often wish colleges would put more emphasis on developing the professional skills needed to be successful in the workforce, and find many students to only be book-smart? There is a new certificate program developed with a solution in mind—to ready college students for the workforce.

The INdorsed certificate program was developed by Career Development Professionals of Indiana (CDPI) through research on what employers look for in a strong candidate, with 32 participating Indiana colleges and universities. Three main competency areas were developed—Professional Identity, Professional Experience, and Professional Skills—and recommended activities to accomplish competency within each area were assigned.

What this means for you as an employer or recruiter

IPFW is launching this certificate program campus-wide this year, and hopes to graduate IPFW students with this certificate starting in May 2014. There are 32 participating Indiana colleges, so when recruiting and/or attending a job fair in Indiana consider asking the following questions:

1. "Are you an INdorsed student?" or "Are you completing the INdorsed certificate program through Career Services?"

2. "We place an emphasis on professionalism; what have you done outside the classroom to prepare you to be a professional?" If the answer is less than you desire, please refer them to Career Services and the INdorsed program.

You can recruit or check if your candidates are Career Ready through a database made available for employers to identify INdorsed Career-Ready Graduates. Since most colleges just started within the last year the database is limited, but keep checking back as CDPI uploads new certificate holders every semester.

Read more about the program on IPFW Career Services website, view the progress sheet, and learn more about what IPFW Career Services has to offer you.