the pittsburgh promise

FACT SHEET

WHAT DO I NEED TO BE ELIGIBLE?

To earn The Pittsburgh Promise scholarship, students must:

1. graduate from high school in, or before, 2028
2. have been enrolled in Pittsburgh Public Schools, or a school chartered by Pittsburgh Public Schools, continuously, since at least the 9th grade
3. have been a resident of the City of Pittsburgh (or Wilkinsburg), continuously, since at least the 9th grade
4. graduate from a PPS high school with a minimum cumulative, unweighted grade point average of 2.50 and an attendance record of 90% or above

Students who meet the other Promise requirements, but graduate with a cumulative, unweighted grade point average between 2.0 and 2.49 may apply for The Promise Extension Program. Promise funds help pay for the program, and those who complete the year-long curriculum successfully become fully Promise-eligible. Find out more at **pittsburghpromise.org/the-scholarship/eligibility**.

HOW MUCH COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY WILL I RECEIVE?

Eligible students who have been enrolled continuously since day one of 9th grade will qualify for *up to* $5,000 per year ($20,000 maximum) to be used within five years of high school graduation. *A minimum scholarship* of $1,000 annually will be provided to all eligible and enrolled students

The Promise is a "last-dollar" scholarship. This means *up to* $5,000 per year ($20,000 maximum) will be applied to the student's Remaining Balance after government grants (such as Pell, PHEAA, and FSEOG), other grants, and scholarships, including tuition remission, have been deducted, for each of five years of post-secondary education.

If a student with a maximum award of $5,000 only requires $3,000 to cover all expenses, we provide the $3,000. If a student has no expenses after all other grants and scholarships are applied, they will still receive a $1,000 minimum award from The Promise to be used for school-related expenses at their discretion.

WHAT CAN **PROMISE FUNDS** BE USED FOR?

For the Classes of 2018 and beyond:

The Promise scholarship helps to cover the Total Cost of Attendance. This includes tuition, fees, room, board, and books.

LIST OF PROMISE ELIGIBLE HIGH SCHOOLS

City High Charter High School
Environmental Charter School
Passport Academy Charter School
Pittsburgh Allderdice
Pittsburgh Brashear
Pittsburgh CAPA
Pittsburgh Carrick
Pittsburgh Milliones (UPrep)
Pittsburgh Obama
Pittsburgh Online Academy*
Pittsburgh Perry
Pittsburgh Sci-Tech Academy
Pittsburgh Westinghouse
The Academy Charter High School
Urban Pathways Charter High School

* *Pittsburgh Online Academy is the only online/cyber high school that qualifies students for The Promise scholarship.*

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Learn more about The Pittsburgh Promise:
www.pittsburghpromise.org

WHERE CAN I USE THE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP?

Students may attend any accredited college, university, trade, or technical school in Pennsylvania, including online programs offered by these schools. Programs must be eligible for the federal Pell grant. Promise funds are for post-secondary education only, and cannot be used for graduate-level programs. The Promise does not fund solely online schools (those without a permanent institution based in Pennsylvania only).

HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO USE THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The Pittsburgh Promise must be used within the five years immediately following graduation from high school.

WHAT IF I AM NOT GRADED ON A TRADITIONAL 4.0 SCALE?

Pittsburgh Public Schools is responsible for reporting academic information to The Promise for each student. Your Guidance or Transition Counselor will work with your school to determine your academic progress and translate it for Promise eligibility purposes.

WHAT IF I HAVE AN INTERRUPTION TO MY ENROLLMENT, GPA, ATTENDANCE, OR ANOTHER ISSUE THAT AFFECTS MY ELIGIBILITY DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES OUTSIDE OF MY CONTROL?

The Compassion Appeal process is available for students who have a serious experience or issue that interferes with their ability to earn eligibility for the scholarship. Appeals are submitted through The Promise Student Portal. Appeals are given consideration on the basis of IEPs, 504s, and other circumstances beyond the student's control. Appeals may be submitted while in high school and college.

HOW DO I STAY PROMISE-ELIGIBLE ONCE I BEGIN POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL?

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and complete a full-time course load as defined by the school they attend, usually 12–16 credits. Check with your school for their definition of full-time. Academic progress will be reviewed by The Promise at the end of each school year. Part-time enrollment is not funded by The Promise. *Note: At most 4-year colleges, students must complete 15 credits per semester in order to graduate in 4 years.*

Students must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) each year while in post-secondary before Promise can be processed.

HOW DO I APPLY?

During your senior year of high school, log in to The Promise Student Portal to complete the FERPA Release and enter your school interest(s).

HOW DOES MY SCHOOL GET THE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP?

Students enter the name of the school they will attend in The Promise Student Portal and The Promise takes it from there. Schools invoice The Pittsburgh Promise for the funds. Checks are sent directly to the school.

MORE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.

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