

# FACT SHEET

➔ In order to ensure the longevity of The Pittsburgh Promise, changes to the scholarship structure were made, starting with the Class of 2017. This FAQ sheet outlines The Promise scholarship parameters for the Classes of 2012-2016 and the Class of 2017.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BE ELIGIBLE?

A student needs to be continuously enrolled in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, or one of 4 high schools chartered by PPS, since at least the first day of ninth grade, and maintain continuous residency in the City of Pittsburgh. Below are award levels according to school enrollment.

## HOW MUCH COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY WILL I RECEIVE?

<u>Continuous Residency &amp; Enrollment Since:</u>	<u>Total annual amount given per year is UP TO a maximum of: (Classes of 2012-2016)</u>	<u>Total annual amount given per year is UP TO a maximum of: (Class of 2017)</u>
Kindergarten	100% or \$10,000	100% or \$7,500
1st-5th grade	95% or \$9,500	90% or \$6,750
6th-8th grade	85% or \$8,500	70% or \$5,250
9th grade	75% or \$7,500	50% or \$3,750
10th-12th grade	\$0	\$0

## WHAT ARE THE GPA AND ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

You must graduate with a cumulative, un-weighted high school GPA of 2.50. Also, you must graduate with an attendance record of 90% (not including excused absences for illness). Students with GPAs between 2.0 and 2.49 may apply for The Promise Extension which pays for students to enroll at CCAC. If the student performs at a 2.0 GPA or higher during a fall and spring semester at CCAC, that student will then be considered a full Promise Scholar and can pursue further education at any Promise-eligible school.

## WHAT DOES THE PROMISE PAY FOR?

**For the Classes of 2012-2016:** The Promise scholarship pays for the Total Cost of Attendance (tuition, fees, books, room and board at schools providing residency).

**For the Class of 2017:** A small group of donors created a “bridge fund” to make it possible for The Promise scholarship to pay for the Total Cost of Attendance (tuition, fees, books, room and board at schools providing residency).

The Promise scholarship is “last dollar” meaning that Promise funds factor into a student’s financial aid package after government grants, such as Pell, PHEAA and FSEOG, and other grants and scholarships have been deducted, up to the student’s maximum award amount as outlined above, for each of 4 years of education. You must attend an accredited college, university, trade or tech school in Pennsylvania.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Log on to The Promise Student Portal and fill out all Release Forms. Instructions are available on The Promise website or from high school guidance counselors. Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the PA State Grant Form by April 30th each year.

## WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO KEEP THE SCHOLARSHIP ONCE I BEGIN SCHOOL?

You must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and carry a normal, full-time course load as defined by the school, which is usually 12-16 credits at most colleges and universities. Check with your school for their definition of “full time.” Transcripts will be reviewed annually at the conclusion of the school year.

## HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO USE MY SCHOLARSHIP?

**For the Classes of 2012-2016:** The Pittsburgh Promise scholarship must be used within five years of graduation.

**For the Class of 2017:** The Pittsburgh Promise scholarship must be used within four years of graduation.

## HOW DOES MY SCHOOL GET THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Promise eligible schools invoice The Pittsburgh Promise for the scholarship funds. Checks are sent directly to the school.

## HOW DO I CONTACT THE PITTSBURGH PROMISE?

**Visit us:** 1901 Centre Avenue - Suite 204 - Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**Contact us:** 412-281-7605 (telephone) 412-281-7638 (fax) [info@pittsburghpromise.org](mailto:info@pittsburghpromise.org) (email)