

Scholarship Terms at a Glance

In adherence with the Promise Zone Authority Act – our promise of *financial assistance* to all eligible* students include fostering a path to a degree, and/or other high-quality credentials. Award terms include:

1. Promise Scholarships will fund educational opportunities at eligible institutions. Eligible institutions currently include Muskegon Community College and Baker College of Muskegon.
2. Students must accept/apply for a Promise Scholarship annually. Students are eligible for open and year-round enrollment.
3. Eligible students will receive a Promise Scholarship for any qualified educational expense as identified by the Promise Zone Act, up to the cost of obtaining an associate's degree or its equivalent at the prevailing rate at an eligible institution. Each eligible institution's varied cost of attendance will be covered by the Promise Scholarship. Note: Any MAISD student enrolled in college under dual enrollment contracts is not eligible for Promise Scholarships.
4. Promise Scholarships will be for an amount up to the cost of attendance for full-time enrollment over three terms (Fall, Winter, and Summer) per year. Subject to that maximum, a student's Promise Scholarship amount will be the balance remaining for the qualified educational expenses after the student has applied for and accepted all federal, state, and institutional grants for a given year.
5. Promise Scholarships will be funded at full value for all students who have confirmed enrollment and residency within the MAISD boundaries for grades 9-12. A prorated amount of the award will be available for all other cases at 25% each year enrolled.
6. Monies will be paid directly to the applicable eligible institution following an institutional invoice process.
7. Eligible students must comply with the eligible institution's standards for satisfactory academic progress (SAP) and must declare themselves as either a degree-seeking or a summer guest student.
8. The Promise Scholarship will pay up to a maximum of 72 credits for degree-seeking students and 12 credits for summer guest students.
9. Eligible students can be enrolled full-time or less and will have a maximum of five years from their respective high school graduation to use the Promise Scholarship award. All Promise Scholarship awards will expire, and be forfeited, five years after the eligible student's recorded high school graduation date.

Other Relevant Limitations & Conditions:

10. Educational expenses such as books, supplies, and equipment needed while enrolled in college are NOT currently covered by the Promise Scholarship. These items are the responsibility of the student but may be covered with other secured funds like state grants and institutional or private scholarships - or by personal means.
11. Fees for exploratory classes, such as study abroad, may not be covered by the Promise Scholarship. Students should submit an appeal application to promise@muskegonisd.org prior to enrolling.
12. Primary **communication** with Promise Scholars **will be ELECTRONIC** once enrolled in college. Email, text and social media are the variety of methods used.

PZA Board Policy

Annual Acceptance is required. Online acceptance via an electronic form is our current source and platform for accepting all awards. Due to Promise Zone financial responsibility, planning and means - any student looking to accept and claim their Promise Scholarship is respectfully asked to do so on, or BEFORE, July 1 in any given year. This is a soft deadline for planning reasons only. Students are in fact eligible for open and year-round enrollment.

(*)The Muskegon Area Promise's Development Plan is required to outline any limitations of financial assistance. Not all graduates are found to be eligible each year. The Muskegon Area PZA reviews and approves limitations annually. Current eligibility limitations include students who: 1) earn a cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) upon graduation that meets or exceeds an unweighted 3.00 GPA minimum, or are achieving graduation in the top 30% of their class with a 2.500 or higher, 2) have predetermined CTC eligibility and 3) have predetermined Homeschool eligibility.

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