

Scholarship Terms at a Glance

In adherence with Public Act 549, the Promise Zone Authority Act – our promise of *financial assistance* to all eligible* students include funding for qualified educational expenses up to the cost of obtaining an associate degree or its equivalent (72 credits maximum) at one of our partnering institutions. Our primary goal is to foster a path to a degree, and/or other high quality credential. Award terms include:

1. **ANNUAL** acceptance is required for all eligible students, however open enrollment without a deadline will be maintained.
2. Annual scholarships do have a **maximum dollar value**, and are based on the prevailing tuition rate at Muskegon Community College for full time, in-county enrollment - over three terms (Fall, Winter and Summer). Subject to that maximum, a student's 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.
3. The value of the scholarship is based on **in-county tuition rates** at our local community college. In the event a student's residence is out-of-county (Ottawa, Newaygo or Oceana), higher rates will be charged. Higher rates may create a deficit for such students and will not be covered by the Promise award.
4. Scholarships will be funded at full value for all students who have confirmed enrollment and residency within our **MAISD boundaries for grades 9-12**. A prorated amount of the award will be available for all other cases, at 25% each year enrolled.
5. Monies will be paid directly to either partnering institution following an institutional invoice process.
6. Students must comply with the partnering institution's standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
7. Students must be **degree seeking locally** and can be enrolled full time or part time. Students will have a maximum of four years from high school graduation to use Promise scholarship monies. All awards will expire, and be forfeited, FOUR years after high school graduation.

Other Relevant Terms & Conditions:

8. Educational expenses such as books, supplies and equipment needed while enrolled in college; are NOT covered by the Promise and are only fully available in partnership with other secured funds, grants, awards or scholarships.
9. Fees for exploratory classes such as study abroad may not be covered by the Promise award. Students should confirm the allowance with Financial Aid prior to enrolling.
10. All **communication** with Promise Scholars once enrolled in college **will be ELECTRONIC**. 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 award are respectfully asked to do so **on, or BEFORE, July 1** in any given year. This is a soft deadline for planning reasons only. Open enrollment (accepting a Promise award after July 1) will be approved for all eligible students.

(*)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 3.25 GPA minimum, or are achieving graduation in the top 30% of their class, 2) have predetermined CTC eligibility and 3) have predetermined Homeschool eligibility.