

# DESCRIPTION OF KALAMAZOO PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

## ELIGIBILITY

- All students who graduate from Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS), are residing in the district, and have been KPS students four years or more. (Enrollment and residency must be continuous.)
- Admitted to and enrolled at any public State of Michigan university or community college.
  - Make regular progress toward a degree or certification.
  - Must maintain a 2.0 grade point average at the post-secondary institution.
  - Complete a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester.
  - If the GPA drops below 2.0, a student may be reinstated if he/she is able to bring their GPA back to at least a 2.0.

## EXTENT OF BENEFITS

The tuition benefit will be graduated on the basis of length of attendance in the Kalamazoo Public School system.

Length of Attendance	Benefit
K-12	100%
1-12	95%
2-12	95%
3-12	95%
4-12	90%
5-12	85%
6-12	80%
7-12	75%
8-12	70%
9-12	65%
10-12	None
11-12	None
12-12	None

## TERMS OF SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship program provides up to four (4) years of tuition and mandatory fees for post-secondary education (per the scale above). The students must be a full-time student, taking 12 credit hours per semester minimum. Individual summer school classes will be covered as long as the class applies toward the degree or certification program in which the student is enrolled and is taken at their designated school of choice. A special permission form must be completed AND approved in order to take summer classes at other than the school of choice.

Mandatory fees are defined using the same definition as the Michigan Educational Trust and are determined by each educational institution.

The post-secondary education must be completed within 10 years of the date of high school graduation. Exceptions to this requirement are granted for military service.

Four years shall be defined as the receipt of a bachelors degree or 130 credit hours towards a degree, whichever occurs first. This education must be pursued per the requirements listed above.

## DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Scholarship recipients **must** submit:

- A Kalamazoo Promise application form.
- A Kalamazoo Promise scholarship acceptance form.
- A transcript from the previous semester indicating as a minimum: classes taken, grades and credit hours for those classes and cumulative GPA. (Provisions may be made to have this submitted by the post-secondary institution.)
- All changes to contact information as they occur. This includes home and school addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.
- A Kalamazoo Promise scholarship transfer form if changing school of choice.
- A Kalamazoo Promise summer school exception form in order to take summer classes at other than the school of choice.

## DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

All funds will be paid directly to the educational institution. Funds will be paid a maximum of three times per year. Payments will be paid after the drop/add period of the fall, winter and summer/spring semester as defined by each educational institution, generally at the same time that Michigan Educational Trust Funds are billed.

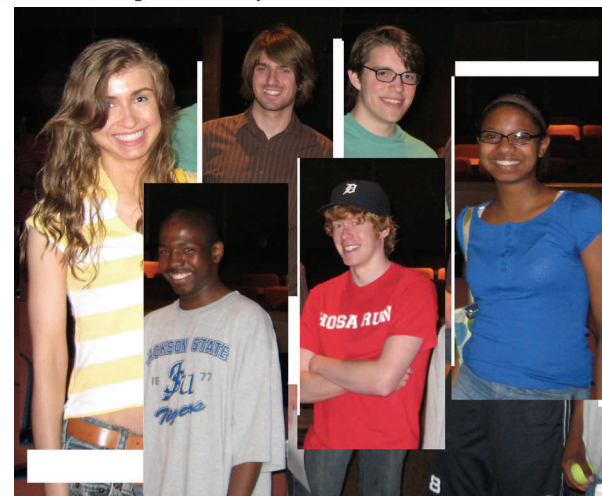
Any refunds due to the scholarship will be paid directly to The Kalamazoo Promise.

## ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS

Any public State of Michigan university or community college is eligible.

A list of these schools is available on The Kalamazoo Promise website, Kalamazoo Promise Application & the Scholarship Acceptance Form.

The Kalamazoo Promise<sup>®</sup>  
kept exclusively at The Kalamazoo Public Schools



Information  
for  
Seniors  
&  
Parents

The Kalamazoo Promise<sup>®</sup>  
kept exclusively at The Kalamazoo Public Schools

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[www.kalamazoopromise.com](http://www.kalamazoopromise.com)



# Kalamazoo Promise Scholarship-

## A Two Step Process

### Step One -

#### **Kalamazoo Promise Application:**

This form is a one page form that is generally filled out as early as possible during the fall of the student's senior year. It may be obtained from the high school guidance office or downloaded from [www.kalamazoopromise.com](http://www.kalamazoopromise.com).

The application is used to make sure that the student and The Kalamazoo Promise are in agreement on the eligibility percentage for the scholarship. It is also used to identify colleges and universities that a student is interested in attending with The Promise scholarship.

Once the application has been approved The Promise will send the student a certificate indicating the amount of the scholarship. The Promise will also make the student's scholarship and contact information available to the schools the student listed on their application.

### Step Two -

#### **Scholarship Acceptance Form:**

This form is a one page form that is completed once a student has been accepted to the college or university of their choice. This form is usually filled out in the spring or summer of the student's senior year.

This form is returned to the student with their accepted scholarship certification. (The form may also be obtained from the high school guidance offices or The Promise website.)

This form is an agreement between the student and The Promise on what each party will do in order to maintain the scholarship. It provides The Promise with the legal permission to have access to a student's academic and financial aid information. This information is used by the Promise to evaluate the continuing eligibility of the student to receive Kalamazoo Promise funding.

**NO SCHOLARSHIP CAN OR WILL BE PAID WITHOUT BOTH OF THESE COMPLETED FORMS.**

#### **Online Student Accounts:**

Every student who receives The Kalamazoo Promise has an on-line account at [www.kalamazoopromise.com](http://www.kalamazoopromise.com).

This account provides the student with all the information concerning their scholarship. This includes all payments made, credits paid & earned, and grades by semester and college or university.

It also provides a student with an easy way to update their contact information—a requirement in order to continue receiving scholarship funding.

Students access this account by going to the Account Login portion of the website and following the "register here" process.

#### **Senior Year Checklist:**

1. Complete **Kalamazoo Promise Application** (Sept. / Oct.)
2. Register at Kalamazoo Promise website. [www.kalamazoopromise.com](http://www.kalamazoopromise.com)
3. Apply to prospective colleges / universities (Sept. / Oct.)
4. Apply for other scholarships: [www.kalfound.org](http://www.kalfound.org)  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
5. Retake college acceptance tests if needed  
**ACT** - [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)  
**SAT** - [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
6. Complete **FAFSA** – Free Application for Federal Student Aid (Jan. / Feb.)  
[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
7. Complete **Kalamazoo Promise Scholarship Acceptance Form** (as soon as accepted at school of choice)
8. Attend orientation at college or university.

#### **Appeals:**

Students who do not meet the eligibility requirements of The Kalamazoo Promise, but have a significant history of residency & enrollment with KPS may be able to appeal their eligibility. Appeals are initiated by contacting the Administrator of The Kalamazoo Promise. (see back of this brochure)