

# HARPER COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

**TUITION EARNED**

A SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED TO EVERY PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN THE HARPER COLLEGE DISTRICT THAT WOULD FUND UP TO TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE.

What if we could promise every public high school student in the northwest suburbs **two years of college tuition-free if they're willing to earn it?** Think of the possibilities for students, parents and our local workforce. Two years of college. Tuition free.

Under the Harper College Promise Scholarship Program **every** eligible public high school student in Harper's District can earn up to two years of tuition at Harper College if they maintain solid grades, have good attendance, don't repeat classes, graduate on time and provide service to their community.



## PROMISE BENEFITS

**65%**

### Completion: 65% vs. 31%

Students in a similar promise program in Peoria, IL graduated or transferred at a rate of 65% compared to 31% for students who did not participate in the program.

**4.1%**

### Decreased Unemployment

4.1% for people with a college credential vs. 9.4% for people with only a high school education.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

**75%**

### Generational Impact

Children raised in a household of a college degree holder are 75% more likely to earn a degree. This trend can close the household economic gap for years to come.

Source: Natl. Center for Education Statistics

# A PROMISE THAT PAYS FORWARD.

## HOW IT WORKS

The criteria for the Promise scholarship was developed by Harper College, area public high schools and northwest suburban business leaders to promote life skills and habits that will help students succeed in college and provide businesses with smart, skilled and motivated employees.

### IN HIGH SCHOOL

The program starts in the second semester of a student's freshman year in high school. If the student meets attendance, rigor, quality, persistence and community service requirements they can earn up to two years tuition at Harper College.



#### ATTENDANCE

Students may only miss the following number of days:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Second semester of freshman year | 5 |
| Sophomore year                   | 9 |
| Junior year                      | 8 |
| Senior year                      | 7 |



#### RIGOR/QUALITY

Graduate college-ready.

Minimum grade point average (unweighted):

| Districts                   | 211,220* | 214*   |
|-----------------------------|----------|--------|
| 2nd semester, freshman year | 2.0      | 3.0    |
| Sophomore year              | 2.25     | 3.25   |
| Junior year                 | 2.25**   | 3.25** |
| Senior year                 | 2.3**    | 3.3**  |

\* 4.0 scale Districts 211 and 220

\* 5.0 scale District 214

\*\*No grades of D or F



#### PERSISTENCE

√ Meet minimum credit standards at the end of each year.

√ Graduate on time with their class.



#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Number of hours per year:

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Second semester of freshman year | 5  |
| Sophomore year                   | 10 |
| Junior year                      | 15 |
| Senior year                      | 20 |

### AT HARPER COLLEGE

If a high school student meets the criteria, they will earn the first semester of Harper tuition free. They can continue to attend Harper College tuition free semester by semester up to four semesters, if they meet the following criteria.



#### RIGOR/QUALITY

Minimum grade point average:

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| 1st semester | 2.2* |
| 2nd semester | 2.3* |
| 3rd semester | 2.5* |
| 4th semester | 2.5* |

\*No grades of D or F or withdrawal



#### PERSISTENCE

√ A student must attend full-time each semester. (minimum 15 credit hours)

√ A student must attend each consecutive semester (fall/spring) until their certificate or degree is completed — up to four semesters.

√ Summer session tuition is not included in the program.



#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Service requirements must be performed through a Harper-related program.

Number of hours per semester:

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| 1st semester | 10 |
| 2nd semester | 10 |
| 3rd semester | 10 |
| 4th semester | 10 |