

# HARPER COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP



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 incoming 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.



## 65%

### Today's Jobs Require Postsecondary Education

By 2020, 65 percent of all jobs in the U.S. will require postsecondary education and training beyond high school.

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and Workforce

**"Our communities** are going to thrive (with the help of the Promise Program). We're going to attract good jobs, we're going to attract businesses. I appreciate the collective commitment to what this is going to do to strengthen the entire region. It's a really big deal long term."

—Arne Duncan  
former U.S. Secretary of Education

## 21%

### Earnings Impact of College

In 2015, median earnings of young adults with an associate degree were 21% higher than those of young adult high school completers.

Source: Natl. Center for Education Statistics

# A PROMISE THAT PAYS FORWARD.

## HOW IT WORKS

The criteria for the Harper College Promise Scholarship were 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. The Promise Scholarship Program enables participating students to attend Harper without having to pay tuition<sup>†</sup> while they earn career certifications and associate degrees. However, signing up for the Promise program does not commit a student to go to Harper. So there's no reason not to sign up!

### 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, the student can earn up to two years tuition at Harper College.



#### ATTENDANCE

Students may only be absent:

2nd semester of freshman year	5 days or less
Sophomore year	9 days or less
Junior year	8 days or less
Senior year	7 days or less

(3 tardies equal an absence)



#### RIGOR/QUALITY

Graduate college-ready.

Minimum annual grade point average (unweighted):

2nd semester of freshman year	2.0
Sophomore year	2.25
Junior year	2.25*
Senior year	2.3*

\*No semester 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:

2nd semester of freshman year	5
Sophomore year	10
Junior year	15
Senior year	20

### AT HARPER COLLEGE

A high school student who meets the Program's requirements will earn the first semester of Harper tuition free. The student can continue to attend Harper College tuition-free, semester by semester, for up to four semesters (60 credit hours)<sup>†</sup>, if the student meets 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

All participants are required to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA (Social Security number required) and complete the financial aid process. <sup>†</sup> The Promise Scholarship is for tuition only. Fees and books are additional. See Harper's website for current tuition and fees.

Visit [harpercollege.edu/promise](http://harpercollege.edu/promise) for full program details. Program requirements subject to change.