New Haven: Delivering on a Promise

This past year, New Haven embarked on groundbreaking education reform—School Change—to national recognition and acclaim. Collaboratively working with unions and charters, the New Haven Public Schools continued to make steady improvements in the school district so that children get the education they deserve. We are pleased to launch New Haven Promise, a visionary scholarship and support program for New Haven public school students and the capstone of School Change.

Promise communities are those that invest in education and economic development through place-based scholarship programs. New Haven Promise has three goals:

1. Cultivating an aspiration for college education in New Haven public school students
2. Building community and parental engagement
3. Growing economic development in the City of New Haven

New Haven Promise is a catalyst for reducing high school dropout rates, crime, and incarceration, an increase in high school graduation, quality of life, and homeownership; and a culture of excellence and modest standards, high expectations, and hope for our young people and our city.

We help more students to believe they are smart and capable; we build a city together, that promotes this belief.

A responsibility of community leadership, institutions, and organizations is to promote and strengthen the capabilities of New Haven’s youth to think critically, be creative, display patience and perseverance, perform under pressure, and work effectively as a group. As a Promise city we make a statement to our young people—New Haven’s future—that we believe they are worth investing in and in doing so place a value on education as the best possible return on that investment. Education can be the silver bullet to ending poverty, reducing crime, and creating wealth—let’s build a city together that promotes this belief.

William W. Ginsberg
Founder and CEO, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

Richard C. Levin
President, Yale University

Dr. Reginald Mayo
Superintendent, New Haven Public Schools

John DeStefano, Jr
Mayor, City of New Haven

New Haven Promise:
Class of 2011
MAKING THE PROMISE OF COLLEGE A REALITY

Documentation Requirements

Scholarship recipients must submit:

- A New Haven Promise Pledge Form
- A New Haven Promise Application Form
- A New Haven Promise Scholarship Acceptance Form
- A college 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 (includes home and school addresses, phone numbers, and email)
- A New Haven Promise Transfer Form if changing school of choice.

Distribution of Scholarship Funds

- All funds will be paid directly to the educational institution. Payments will be disbursed after the drop/add period of the fall, and spring semester, as defined by each educational institution.
- Any refunds due to the scholarship will be paid directly to New Haven Promise.

Eligible Schools

- All New Haven Public Schools and approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven
- Connecticut in-state public colleges or universities
- Connecticut in-state nonprofit colleges or universities listed as New Haven Promise participants

(See Rules Book for details.)
New Haven Promise Making the Promise of College a Reality

New Haven Promise (NHP) is a visionary program for the purposes of promoting college education as an aspiration for all New Haven Public School (NHPS) students; assisting graduating students from NHPS to pursue further education after high school; and enhancing the growth, stability, and economic development of the City of New Haven.

School Change, has set three distinct goals:

1. Reduce the achievement gap, bringing New Haven students to the Conn. or average, and CAPT.
2. Halve the dropout rate in five years.
3. Make sure that every graduating student has the aspiration, academic ability, and the financial resources to attend and succeed in college.

The mission of New Haven Promise is to improve the school district—by complementing and promoting school Change, the NHP education reform initiative—and support economic development in New Haven by growing a competitive workforce.

The NHP Class of 2011:

First class to receive funds from New Haven Promise.
Helps reinforce a set development in New Haven by growing a competitive workforce.

The scholarship will provide a mount benefit or other financial assistance as described below (upon graduation) to the New Haven resident who graduates from a New Haven public school and attends Connecticut in-state public or private 4-year college or university.

Who is eligible?

New Haven residents who are admitted to and enrolled in a Connecticut-in-state public 4-year college or university and who meet the following residency, civic behavior, and academic performance criteria:

Residency

Be a New Haven resident and attend New Haven Public Schools or public charter schools in the City of New Haven.

Civic Behavior

Have a positive disciplinary record.

Academic Performance

Achieve a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) or better upon graduation from New Haven public schools and

Maintain a 3.0 GPA during the years who is enrolled in post-secondary education to college.

Step Three — Tell us where you’re headed

NHP Scholarship Application form must be completed and accepted to a participating college or university and

The form must be returned to the guidance counseling office.

Once the application has been approved, NHP will mail the student a letter indicating the amount of the scholarship.

Step Four — Apply for the NHP Scholarship

• NHP Application form must be filled out prior to March 1 of a student’s senior year.

• The form may be obtained from the guidance counseling office or downloaded from www.newhavenpromise.org.

• The form must be returned to the guidance counseling office.

• Once the application has been approved, NHP will mail the student a letter indicating the amount of the scholarship.

Student Checklist

Terms of Scholarship

The scholarship will provide a mount benefit to or other financial assistance as described below (upon graduation) to the New Haven resident who graduates from a New Haven public school.

For students matriculating at Connecticut in-state nonprofit college or universities NHP will contribute up to a maximum of $2,500 toward the total cost of education. This $2,500 contribution will be the "last money in," meaning it will only be made available to the student to cover remaining costs after all other sources of financial aid have been used.

The term "total cost of education" shall include the cost of tuition, fees, room, and board.

Students are eligible for two years of scholarships for 4-year institutions for up to two years after graduation from high school and for two years of scholarships for a 2-year institution for up to two years after graduation from high school.

Students who have not completed an associate degree or certificate program prior to applying for scholarships for a 2-year institution are eligible for up to two years after graduation from high school.

Extent of Benefits

College

Civic Behavior

Residency

K-12 100% 7-12 75%
1-12  95% 8-12 70%
2-12  95% 9-12  65%
3-12  95% 10-12  0%
5-12 85% 12-12  0%
0-12  25% 0-7  50%
7-12  75% 7-12  50%
12-12  0% 12-12  0%

Students who need additional academic support should contact their guidance counselor or go to www.newhavenpromise.org for additional services.