Student Checklist

Senior Year (continued)

- Complete NHP Application (before March 1)
- Apply for other scholarships
- Complete NHP Acceptance Form (as soon as accepted at school of choice and received notification of NHP scholarship)
- Attend orientation at college or university

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 it challenges the education they deliver. We partnered 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:

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

New Haven Promise was created to cultivate in high school students, parents, and communities an increase in high school graduation rates; quality of life; and hometown pride, and a culture of college and career readiness; high aspirations and hope for our young people and our city. Inability for innocent children to believe they are successful and to promote a culture for adults that they work together to help students achieve.

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 efficiently as a group. As a Promise city we make a commitment 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.

Richard C. Levin
President, Yale University

Dr. Reginald Mayo
Superintendent, New Haven Public Schools

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

John Del Surfano, Jr
Mayor, City of New Haven

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 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 (including 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.
- A list of these schools is available on the New Haven Promise website and Rules Book.
- Connecticut in-state public colleges or universities.
- Connecticut in-state nonprofit colleges or universities listed as New Haven Promise participants.
- A list of these schools is available on the New Haven Promise website, New Haven Promise Application and the Scholarship Acceptance Form.

(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.

The mission of New Haven Promise is to improve the school district—by complementing and promoting School Change, the NHPS education reform initiative—and support economic development in New Haven by creating a competitive workforce and increasing homeownership. By providing economic access to non-higher education colleges and universities to young people who want to learn, New Haven Promise helps reinforce a set of core values that make cities great.

School Change, has set three distinct goals:

• Reduce the achievement gap, bringing New Haven students to the Connecticut averages on the CMT and CAPT.
• Halve the dropout rate in five years.
• Make sure that every graduating student has the aspiration, academic ability, and the financial resources to attend and succeed in college.

NHP Class of 2012

• Eligible for 50% of the scholarship
• Criteria requirements cover grades 9-12
• Must meet all eligibility requirements
• Readability in New Haven is required and factored
• 120 hours of community service
• See Rules Book for details
• Program description and requirements on reverse side

Step Start your Promise

Step One—Sign the NHP Pledge

• NHP Pledge Form must be filled out and returned to the guidance counseling office or downloaded from www.newhav unpromise.org.
• The form must be returned to the guidance counseling office.

Step Two—Apply for the NHP Scholarship

• NHP Application Form must be postmarked no later than March of a student’s senior year.
• The form must be obtained from the guidance counseling office or downloaded from www.newhav unpromise.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 magnitude of the scholarship.

Step Three—Tell us where you’re headed

• NHP Scholarship Acceptance Form must be completed once a student has been accepted to a participating college or university.
• The form must be obtained from the guidance counseling office or downloaded from www.newhavenpromise.org.
• The form must be mailed to: New Haven Promise 603 Connecticut Avenue, Room 205 Yale Library New Haven, CT 06515

Facts About New Haven Promise

Who is eligible?

• New Haven residents who will be eligible and enroll in a Connecticut in-state public or private 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 approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven.

Civic Behavior

• Have a positive disciplinary record.
• Complete the community service requirement.

Academic Performance

• Achieve a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) or better upon graduation from New Haven public schools.
• Maintain a 2.0 GPA during the years s/he is enrolled in a Connecticut in-state public or private 4-year college or university.

For those students at public 4- or 2-year institutions for whom other scholarships and grants cover all or a portion of their costs, NHP will provide the remaining portion of their costs, as long as long is in accordance with the total cost of education and the scholarships/aid for which the student qualifies from all sources, other than the guidance counseling office from the NHP Board.

• For students matriculating at Connecticut in-state nonprofit college or university, NHP will contribute up to a maximum of $2,500 per year toward the student’s total cost of education. This figure would 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 “total cost of education” shall include the costs of tuition, fees, room, and board.

Terms of Scholarship

• The scholarship will be of sufficient magnitude to help eligible or other financial assistance as described above (up to $2,500 per year toward the student’s total cost of education and the scholarships/aid for which the student qualifies from all sources, other than the guidance counseling office from the NHP Board)
• The scholarship will be of sufficient magnitude to help eligible or other financial assistance as described above (up to $2,500 per year toward the student’s total cost of education and the scholarships/aid for which the student qualifies from all sources, other than the guidance counseling office from the NHP Board)
• The scholarship will be paid at the beginning of each academic year, provided the student has maintained eligibility under the terms of the scholarship.
• The student will be eligible for 20 hours of community service
• The student will no longer be eligible for funding, even if the student has begun his or her education but has not yet completed it. Within two years, the student must be full-time. Students not meeting from a years-4 year institutions are eligible for up to four years of scholarships total.

Student Checklist

Junior Year
• Complete NHP Pledge (Nov. 30)
• Become familiar with NHP requirements
• Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
• Enroll in Advance Placement classes
• Plan college promotional visits
• Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
• Meet with guidance counselor
• Attend college information sessions
• Visit campus
• Build relationships with teachers in order to encourage letters of recommendation in the spring
• Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college

Senior Year
• Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
• Solidify community service hours
• College essay
• Requirement of at least 80 hours prior to graduation
• Register for college acceptance tests (if you haven’t taken one):
• SAT—www.collegeboard.org
• ACT—www.act.org
• PSAT
• Finish college essay(s)
• Apply to prospective colleges or universities
• The tuition benefit will be scaled based on attendance benefit:
• Pre-K-12 100% 6-12 80%
• K-12 100% 7-12 75%
• 1-12 95% 8-12 70%
• 2-12 95% 9-12 65%
• 3-12 95% 10-12 0%
• 4-12 90% 11-12 0%
• 5-12 85% 12-12 0%
• Build relationships with teachers in order to encourage letters of recommendation in the spring
• Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college

Number of students who was a resident of New Haven and attended New Haven public schools