New Haven: Delivering on a Promise

This past year, New Haven embarked on groundbreaking education reform—school change—strategic recognition and acclaim. Collaboratively working with unions and charters, the New Haven Public Schools continue to make strides improving 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:

- Collaborate across all levels of education: New Haven public school students
- Build community and personal empowerment
- Growth economic development in the City of New Haven

New Haven Promise will have a significant impact in high schools, dropout, crime, and incarceration; an increase in high school graduates, college enrollment, and career readiness; high expectations, and hope for our young people and our City. We’ll help more children to believe they can succeed and promote a culture in our system for adults so 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 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 strong emphasis 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
President and CEO,
The Community Foundation
for Greater New Haven

Dr. Reginald Mayo
Superintendent,
New Haven Public Schools

Richard L. Levin
President, Yale University

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor, City of New Haven

New Haven Promise Application and the Scholarship Acceptance Form. (See Rule Book for details.)

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 Rule Book.
- Connecticut state public colleges or universities.
- Connecticut state non-profit 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.

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 (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 during the drop/add period of the fall and spring semester, as determined by each institutional administration.
- Any refunds due to the scholarship will be paid directly in New Haven Promise.

Student Checklist

Junior Year

- Register for and take the PSAT
- Build relationships with teachers in order to request letters of recommendation in the future
- Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college

Senior Year

- Meet with guidance counselor or work independently
- Solidify community service with guidance counselor
- Requirements of at least 40 hours prior to graduation
- Register for college acceptance tests (if you haven’t taken one)
- SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT: www.act.org
- Finish college essay(s)
- Apply to prospective colleges or universities
- Complete FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid (Jan-Feb)
- www.fafsa.gov
- Complete NHP Application (before March 1)
- Register for college acceptance tests (if you haven’t taken one)
- SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT—www.actstudent.org
- Register for college acceptance tests (if you haven’t taken one)
- SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT—www.actstudent.org
- Submit: A New Haven Promise Pledge Form.
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Continue college essay(s)
- Complete NHP Application (before March 1)
- Complete NHP Acceptance Form (as soon as accepted at school of choice and received notification of NHP scholarship)
- Meet with guidance counselor
- Work independently
- Apply to prospective colleges or universities
- Complete NHP Application (before March 1)
- Register for college acceptance tests (if you haven’t taken one)
- SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT—www.actstudent.org
- Submit: A New Haven Promise Pledge Form.
- Meet with guidance counselor
- Set meetings with teachers in order to request letters of recommendation in the future
- Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college

Students who need additional academic support should contact their guidance counselor or go to www.newhavenpromise.org for additional services.
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 in pursuing 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 promoting a competitive workforce and increasing homeownership. By providing economic access to two- and four-year colleges and universities for young people who want to learn, New Haven Promise helps reinforce a set of core values that make cities great.

Step One—Sign the NHP Pledge

- NHP Pledge Form must be filled out to enroll in program. (Deadline: Nov. 30 of 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.

Step Two—Apply for the NHP Scholarship

- NHP Application Form must be filled out prior to March 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.

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 may be obtained from the guidance counseling office or downloaded from www.newhavenpromise.org.
- The form must be mailed to: New Haven Promise 501 Crescent Street—SCSU Buley Library New Haven, CT, 06515

Facts About New Haven Promise

Who is eligible?

New Haven students who are admitted to and enrolled in a Connecticut-in-state public 2- or 4-year college or university and who meet the following residency, civic behavior, and academic performance criteria:

- Be a New Haven resident and attend New Haven Public Schools or approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven.
- Maintain a 2.5 GPA during the years s/he is enrolled in post-secondary education to college.
- Achieve 90% attendance or better during high school (grades 9-12).
- Achieve a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) or better upon graduation from New Haven public schools.
- Be a New Haven resident and attend New Haven Public Schools or approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven.

Terms of Scholarship

- The scholarship will provide full tuition or other financial assistance as described below for up to four years to any New Haven resident who graduates from a New Haven public school and attends a Connecticut-in-state public 2- or 4-year college or university.
- For students who are admitted to a public 2- or 4-year college or university for whom other scholarships and grants cover all or some of their tuition costs, NHP will provide the remainder of 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 room and board, tuition, fees, and any additional costs related to the student’s education. The “last money in” means NHP will only make available to the student to cover remaining costs after all other sources of financial aid have been used.
- The tuition benefit will be scaled based on length of time student was a resident of New Haven.

Extent of Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Attendance</th>
<th>Pre-K-12</th>
<th>1-12</th>
<th>2-12</th>
<th>3-12</th>
<th>4-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefit (%)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit ($)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Checklist

Freshman Year
- Complete NHP Pledge (Nov. 30)
- Become familiar with NHP requirements
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes and/or AP tests
- Start Your Promise

Sophomore Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Take leadership positions in extracurricular activities
- Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college
- Choose a college or universities that interest you

Junior Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Complete community service hours (10 hours)
- Take leadership positions in extracurricular activities
- Explore college options that will prepare you for college
- Choose a college or universities that interest you

Senior Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Complete community service hours (10 hours)
- Start Your Promise
- Work on college essay(s)
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college
- Complete college applications
- Complete community service hours (10 hours)
- Explore college options that will prepare you for college
- Choose a college or universities that interest you

Facts About New Haven Promise

- The tuition benefit will be scaled based on length of time student was a resident of New Haven.
- New Haven students who are admitted to and enrolled in a Connecticut-in-state public 2- or 4-year college or university and who meet the following residency, civic behavior, and academic performance criteria:
- Be a New Haven resident and attend New Haven Public Schools or approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven.
- Maintain a 2.5 GPA during the years s/he is enrolled in post-secondary education to college.
- Achieve 90% attendance or better during high school (grades 9-12).
- Achieve a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) or better upon graduation from New Haven public schools.
- Be a New Haven resident and attend New Haven Public Schools or approved public charter schools in the City of New Haven.

Terms of Scholarship

- The scholarship will provide full tuition or other financial assistance as described below for up to four years to any New Haven resident who graduates from a New Haven public school and attends a Connecticut-in-state public 2- or 4-year college or university.
- For students who are admitted to a public 2- or 4-year college or university for whom other scholarships and grants cover all or some of their tuition costs, NHP will provide the remainder of 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 room and board, tuition, fees, and any additional costs related to the student’s education. The “last money in” means NHP will only make available to the student to cover remaining costs after all other sources of financial aid have been used.
- The tuition benefit will be scaled based on length of time student was a resident of New Haven.

Extent of Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Attendance</th>
<th>Pre-K-12</th>
<th>1-12</th>
<th>2-12</th>
<th>3-12</th>
<th>4-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefit (%)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit ($)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Checklist

Freshman Year
- Complete NHP Pledge (Nov. 30)
- Become familiar with NHP requirements
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes and/or AP tests
- Start Your Promise

Sophomore Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Take leadership positions in extracurricular activities
- Explore summer opportunities that will prepare you for college
- Choose a college or universities that interest you

Junior Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Complete community service hours (10 hours)
- Take leadership positions in extracurricular activities
- Explore college options that will prepare you for college
- Choose a college or universities that interest you

Senior Year
- Meet with guidance counselor and/or advisor
- Enroll in Advance Placement classes
- Complete community service hours (10 hours)
- Start Your Promise
- Work on college essay(s)