Promises Kept in District 32

Recognized by many as America’s best college access program and considered a model that combines emphasis on academic preparation and financial support for college, Oklahoma’s Promise has been providing Oklahoma students the opportunity to earn college tuition scholarships for 20 years.

Oklahoma’s Promise, originally designated as the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program, was created in 1992 by the Legislature to help more Oklahoma families send their children to college. Its goal is to prepare students academically for college and to provide them financial assistance. Since inception, more than 50,000 students have received the scholarship.

In 2007, the Legislature approved a significant change to funding for Oklahoma’s Promise. Beginning in 2008-09, the scholarship program had a permanent, dedicated funding source from the state’s general revenue fund. This means the program will be fully funded each year from a stable source of revenue.

BY THE NUMBERS

In Your District
- In District 32, 120 students from the 2012 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship.
- Currently, 357 high school students in District 32 are enrolled in Oklahoma’s Promise.
  - Coyle Public Schools — 20
  - Lincoln County — 242
  - Perkins-Tryon Public Schools — 64
- Since inception in 1992, 962 students from District 32 have received the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship.
- During the 2011-12 academic year, approximately 5,300 students at higher education institutions in or near District 32 received approximately $20.4 million in scholarships from Oklahoma’s Promise.
  - Langston University — more than 140 students received nearly $400,000.
  - Oklahoma Baptist University — more than 200 students received nearly $800,000.
  - Oklahoma State University — more than 2,600 students received $11 million.
  - Rose State College — more than 500 students received nearly $900,000.
  - St. Gregory’s University — 40 students received more than $130,000.
  - University of Central Oklahoma — nearly 1,900 students received nearly $7.2 million.

Statewide
- More than 6,800 students from the 2012 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship.
- In FY 2012, Oklahoma’s Promise paid $59.5 million in scholarships to 20,029 students.
- A projected 19,650 students will receive the award in 2012-13.
- Approximately 92 percent of Oklahoma’s Promise students stay in Oklahoma after graduating college.
WHO MAY APPLY?

Applicants must be:
• Oklahoma residents.
• Eighth-, ninth-, or 10th-grade students (homeschool students must apply while age 13, 14 or 15).
• Students whose parents earn $50,000 or less per year (a student’s family income must also not exceed $100,000 at the time the student goes to college).
• Students who promise to complete a 17-unit core curriculum, achieve at least a 2.5 GPA in the core and a 2.5 GPA overall, attend school regularly, and refrain from drug abuse and delinquent acts.

THE PROMISE

Upon completion of the program’s requirements, students will earn:
• A tuition scholarship at an Oklahoma public college or university until the student completes a bachelor’s degree or for five years, whichever comes first.
• OR a portion of tuition at an accredited Oklahoma private institution.
• OR a portion of tuition for courses at public technology centers that are approved for credit toward an Associate in Applied Science degree at a public college.

The scholarship does not cover the cost of fees, books, or room and board.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Oklahoma’s Promise students continue to be successful academically.
• High school GPAs exceed the state average.
• ACT scores exceed those of their comparable middle- and lower-income peers.
• College-going rates exceed the state average for high school graduates.
• Lower-than-average remediation rates.
• Higher freshmen college GPAs than non-Oklahoma’s Promise students.
• Higher rates of full-time college enrollment, persistence and degree completion compared to non-Oklahoma’s Promise students.

CURRENT TRENDS: SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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