



FAST FACTS FOR EDUCATORS

What Is The Dallas County Promise?

The Dallas County Promise is a program to reduce financial barriers and support students to succeed in college, career, and life with a commitment to securing a rewarding job in the career pathway of their choice.

The Promise is available to all high school graduates in 50+ participating high schools. All graduates—regardless of GPA or family income—can earn a last-dollar scholarship that will cover any gap between what a student's state and federal financial aid covers and the cost of tuition at a Promise Partner college or university. Promise Scholars also have access to dedicated student supports and exclusive transfer scholarships at select Promise partner colleges and universities.

Promise Scholars intending to enroll at Dallas College to earn an associate degree are also considered for the Rising Star scholarship, which requires a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale and demonstrated financial need, to cover books and supplies.

Dallas County Promise Scholarship Overview

To become a Dallas County Promise Scholar, graduates must:

Complete the Promise Path

1. Complete the **Promise Path** at **DallasCountyPromise.org** [Students will receive a confirmation email with their Promise ID. *Completing a Promise Path form does NOT obligate a student to participate in this program.]

Submit an admission and financial aid application to each partner of choice

2. Submit an admission application to a Promise partner college or university through **ApplyTexas.org** or the partner's website.
3. Submit the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** or **Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)** and list the Promise partner colleges or universities the student is considering.

Register for Fall courses

4. Complete course registration to begin classes at a Promise partner college or university for the Fall semester immediately following high school graduation.



For deadlines and requirements by partner, scan the QR code or visit www.dallascountypromise.org

Promise for Students Graduating with a High School Diploma

Graduates earning their high school diploma at a participating Dallas County Promise high school have the opportunity to attend partner colleges and universities with tuition (the costs of classes) covered in full, without an associate degree requirement. At these institutions, Promise covers any gap between federal and state financial aid and tuition costs.

Promise for Students Graduating High School with an Associate Degree

Graduates earning their associate degree while attending a participating Dallas County Promise high school can have their college tuition covered at select partner colleges and universities. Most partner institutions require an Associate of Arts, Associates of Science or Associate of Arts in Teaching. The **University of North Texas at Dallas** also offers Promise funding for students graduating high school with an Associate of Applied Arts or Associate of Applied Science. At these institutions, Promise covers any gap between federal and state financial aid and tuition costs.

Please note: Students receiving an Associate of Applied Arts (AAA) or Applied Science (AAS) degree may still be eligible, but options with Promise are limited. Please email student.success@dallascountypromise.org if you have a student receiving an AAA or AAS degree.

For full benefits at the Promise partner college/university of each student's choice, specific deadlines and enrollment requirements must be met. Visit www.dallascountypromise.org for deadlines, key dates, and requirements.



Information For Educators & College Access Champions

Why is the Dallas County Promise Necessary?



College Degrees Pay Off:

Completing some level of education beyond high school is necessary to earn most living-wage jobs. 30% of DFW jobs are middle-skill jobs requiring an associate degree or certificate. These jobs pay an average of \$51,000 a year.¹



Workforce Needs: 37% of adults in Dallas County have a two- or four-year degree,² yet **65% of living-wage jobs require an education beyond high school.**³ Unless more students, particularly students experiencing economic insecurity and students of color, complete credentials in high demand fields, the regional economy will experience a significant talent shortage.



Education Gaps: Less than three in 10 Dallas County high school graduates complete a college degree within six years,⁴ which is an average of about 27% for the last six years.⁵



Equity: 10% of 8th grade students experiencing economic insecurity in Dallas County earned a two- or four-year degree six years after high school graduation, according to a recent longitudinal study from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.⁶



Promise Benefits To Your High School Campus:

- Access to FAFSA/TASFA professional development at no cost to district
- Individualized data progress reports on mutually agreed upon milestones
- Continuous improvement support from the Commit Partnership, including help in achieving FAFSA/TASFA, ApplyTexas, scholarship and college enrollment goals

Selection Criteria For Dallas County Promise High Schools

Promise high schools are selected based on their early college status or through an approval process managed in partnership with Dallas County school districts, Dallas College Foundation, and university partners. Each participating campus meets one of the following criteria: (a) TEA-approved Early College High School co-sponsored by Dallas College; (b) co-sponsor of a Collegiate Academy; or (c) has submitted college and career readiness plans and commitments through a process developed in partnership with area school districts and college partners to help ensure all students are on a college- and career-ready pathway to success.

Dallas County Promise Partners

The Dallas County Promise scholarship is available to seniors graduating from participating high school in 10+ school districts and welcomes Promise Scholars at the following partner institutions: all Dallas College campuses, UNT Dallas, Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M-Commerce, Texas A&M-Texarkana, Midwestern State University, The University of Texas at Arlington, and Texas Woman's University, among others. **For a full list of partners, including school districts, nonprofits, investors, and workforce, please visit DallasCountyPromise.org.**

Resources

Communication Tool Kit: For additional resources to help spread the word about Promise, visit **DallasCountyPromise.org**, where you can download the communication tool kit and access videos and sample social media posts.

1. www.jpmmorganchase.com/skillsatwork, May 2015
2. United States Census Bureau, 2011-2015 ACS 5-Year Estimates
3. https://cew.georgetown.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2014/11/Recovery2021.ES_Web_.pdf
4. National Student Clearinghouse, TEA
5. National Student Clearinghouse, TEA
6. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board