

# The Nevada Promise Scholarship

## Nevada's Last-Dollar Scholarship & Mentorship Guidance for Graduating High School Seniors

### About the Nevada Promise Scholarship

The Nevada Promise Scholarship (NPS) is the state's newest scholarship program and is targeted at all graduating high school seniors, regardless of income or academic performance. Modeled after the highly-successful Tennessee Promise, NPS aims to encourage all graduating high school seniors to begin thinking about, and taking proactive steps towards, going to college. The program operates as a last-dollar scholarship, providing up to three years of coverage of registration fees and other mandatory fees to eligible students at a Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) community college after all other forms of gift aid available to a student have been applied.

The NPS program requires students to complete several steps, beginning in their senior year of high school, including giving back to the community through mandatory community service. A student who completes all the program's requirements will be able to enroll in an associate degree or a certificate program of study from an NSHE community college without needing to worry about the registration and other mandatory fees charged to in-state residents.

Too often, students believe that college is simply unaffordable and out of reach. This is especially true for students who would be the first in their family to attend college. But in fact, many students could be eligible for financial aid that substantially lowers the cost of higher education. Through NPS, not only is the goal to increase the number of graduating seniors preparing for and going to college, but also to increase the percentage of students completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). By increasing the FAFSA completion rate, we can be sure that more of Nevada's students are getting the financial aid they are eligible to

### How it Works

As a last-dollar scholarship, the Nevada Promise Scholarship covers the cost of the registration and mandatory fees not covered by other gift aid (tuition is not charged to residents of Nevada). Gift aid is defined as a Federal Pell Grant, a Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), a Silver State Opportunity Grant (SSOG), or a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship (GGMS). The Nevada Promise Scholarship can provide funding for a student for up to three years.

## Promise Calculation

How is the scholarship amount calculated for a qualified student?



Currently the NPS Legislation does not allow for funding of summer courses.

### Program Eligibility

Beginning with the graduating high school class of 2018, Nevada students could apply for the Nevada Promise Scholarship at any community college. To qualify, students must either be a continuing Nevada Promise Scholarship recipient from the previous year, or a new high school graduate.

In addition a student must:

- Be classified as a Nevada resident for tuition purposes by the institution where they plan to receive the NV Promise Scholarship.
- By June 15, have earned one of the following during their high school senior academic year:
  - High school diploma from a public or private high school located in Nevada;
  - High school diploma from a public high school in a county of another state that borders Nevada and accepts Nevada residents; or
  - General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or equivalent document.
  - A homeschooled student may satisfy this eligibility requirement by obtaining a general equivalency diploma or equivalent document (i.e. GED, HSET or TASC).
- Be less than 20 years of age by June 30 of their high school senior academic year.
- Not have earned a prior associate or bachelor's degree.
- Not be in default on any federal student loan.
- Not owe a refund to any federal student aid program.
- Meet all program deadlines, including:
  - Completes the Nevada Promise Application no later than October 31 of their senior year in high school
  - Attends at least one training meeting offered by the college no later than December 30 of their senior year in high school
  - Completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) no later than April 1 and subsequently receives an official Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  - No later than April 30:
    - Meets at least once with their mentor (assigned by the college);
    - Completes at least 20 hours of eligible community service;
    - Attends a second training meeting offered by the college; and
    - Completes any additional requirements for financial aid, including but not limited to verification if applicable.

Nevada System of Higher Education

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