



HARPER COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

FOCUS: PROMISE BUSINESS PARTNERS

“ What I love about the Promise Program is it’s not just about helping students to pursue their further educational goals, but it’s about preparing them for the marketplace. ”

Derrick Hamilton,
STANLEY Convergent Security Solutions, Inc.

Today’s jobs—and the jobs of the future—are fundamentally different than those of the past. According to Georgetown University’s Center on Education and the Workforce, the percentage of U.S. jobs that require a college education and postsecondary training is expected to reach 65 percent in 2020. However, the U.S. is projected to face shortages of three million workers with associate degrees or higher and five million workers with technical certificates and credentials by 2020. Thus, there is an urgent need for skilled workers, and today’s students will need to continue to upgrade their knowledge throughout their working careers.

When the Harper College Promise Scholarship Program was developed in the fall of 2013 and spring of 2014, Harper College took this urgent need into account, and invited local business leaders to the conversation and asked what they were looking for in employees. Through this dialogue, the Harper College Promise Scholarship Program focuses on skills that will benefit students both in the classroom, and also in the workforce.

The Harper College Promise Scholarship Program is helping prepare students for the rigors of college, as well as for the dynamic workforce. These students will learn, live and work in the community and are a pipeline for local talent needs.

To qualify, students must commit to the Promise Program and meet the following criteria to ensure their success as they enter their academic and professional careers.

- Maintain good grades
- Good attendance
- Persistence
- Rigor and quality
- Community service

These skills reflect attitude – meaning that Promise students will have developed the skill sets employers expect and understand the realities of work.

“ It is vital that employers create partnerships with their local educational institutions that help improve the skills of America’s workers and keep businesses thriving. The Promise Scholarship was developed in collaboration with northwest suburban business leaders to promote the types of life skills that will help students succeed and create a pipeline of motivated employees. ”

Greg Brown,
Chairman and CEO of Motorola Solutions

HARPER COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP BUSINESS PARTNERS

Harper College invites local businesses to participate in the Harper College Promise Program by becoming a Business Partner. Business Partners have many options to get involved with the Program:

- Meet with students in small groups to provide information on career options.
- Provide opportunities for students to do mock interviews and/or job shadow.
- Provide hiring preference to Promise students.
- Provide financial support, equipment and/or in-kind donations.

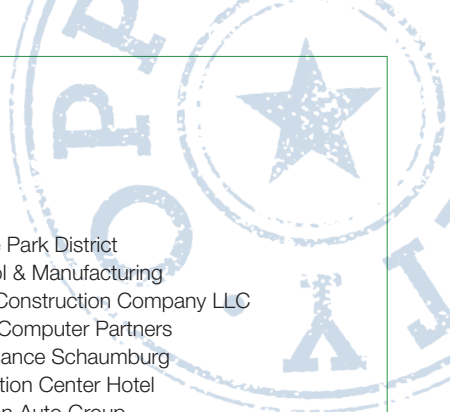
Harper College recognizes and thanks our Harper College Promise Scholarship Business Partners.

HARPER BUSINESS PARTNERS IN ACTION

Harper College attended a recent Career Night for Prospect Heights High School that focused on Arts/ Communication and Human Services and invited the Daily Herald (a Promise Business Partner) to join the Harper College table. Amanda Arnold, Human Resources Generalist for the Daily Herald (and a Harper College alumna), attended the career night and provided information to students who are interested in careers in communication. This is just one way Promise Business Partners are helping.

To sign up to become a Promise Business Partner, please contact Dr. Maria Coons at 847.925.6310, mcoons@harpercollege.edu, or visit harpercollege.edu/promise.





HARPER COLLEGE BUSINESS PARTNERS

(as of summer 2017)

Acme Industries
 Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital
 Allpoints Inc
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 Annie's Resale for the World
 Aronson Advertising
 Atomic Mechanical Services
 Autism Home Support Services
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Grade Power Learning - Palatine
 Hodgson Consulting & Solutions
 Illinois Manufacturers' Association
 Imperial Woodworking Company
 IMS Buhrke-Olson
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 JTAC Toyoda Americas Corporation
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 Keller Williams Team Realty
 Kelley, Kelley & Kelley
 Kramer Photography
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 Little City
 Marin Auto Body / Palatine Complete Automotive
 Max Services, Inc.
 Meet Chicago Northwest
 MeritCorp Group LLC
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 Northwest Community Healthcare
 Nu-Way Industries, Inc.
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 P-K Tool & Manufacturing
 Power Construction Company LLC
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 Undo Identity Theft, Inc.
 Velan Solutions, Inc.
 Wintrust
 Woods Event Management
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COMMUNITY IMPACT OF PROMISE PROGRAMS

What impact have Promise programs had on their communities? The W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research and Western Michigan University researched Promise initiatives in eight communities (including Kalamazoo, Denver and Pittsburgh) across the United States and compared data to determine just that. The study found that across the board, Promise programs attract families to their communities because they either don't have to save for college or they have to save considerably less.

According to *Promise Nation* by Michelle Miller-Adams:

- Following decades of decline, enrollment in the Kalamazoo Public Schools grew by 25 percent between 2005 and 2013.
- The college enrollment rate for graduates of the Denver Public Schools rose from 56 percent to 86 percent between 2007 and 2012, while the college retention rate reached 79 percent for low-income minority students.
- The high school graduation rate in the Pittsburgh Public Schools rose from 63 percent to 69 percent in the six years after the Pittsburgh Promise program was introduced in 2008, while the college enrollment rate increased from 58 percent to 68 percent.

Further, the population of all households in the local labor market of these eight test communities from 2005 to 2013 increased by 1.7 percent, while those households with children increased by 2.5 percent. However, the increase of households with children in Promise communities was 6.0 percent.

Increased population understandably impacts housing prices. The inferred property value increase of 1 percent for Kalamazoo County increased property values by about \$163 million. Increased population also impacts the local labor market by a similar percentage. This translated into about 1,900 new jobs in Kalamazoo County. Clearly, Promise programs are an economic driver.

Promise programs deliver a high economic return for each dollar spent on place-based scholarships, with one study showing each dollar spent provided \$4.60 in increased economic activity for the local community.

Although most Promise programs vary their criteria, the numbers in all programs are consistently growing. Five years ago, only a few dozen Promise programs existed, now with an estimated 60-70 "Promise programs" in existence across the country, it is clear that communities value the impact that Promise programs bring to them, their businesses and their residents.

Research compiled by W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research: The Effects of the Kalamazoo Promise Scholarship on College Enrollment, Persistence and Completion.

Harper College

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FOUNDATION

1200 West Algonquin Road
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PROMISE UPDATE FALL 2017 *UN-AUDITED NUMBERS

Promise application comparison counts for initial sign-ups for incoming Freshman

CLASS OF 2019

Freshman sign up 4,607 (65 percent) of total freshman class
Sophomore continuing 2,576 (36 percent) of total class continuing on
Junior continuing 2,000 (28 percent) of total class continuing on

CLASS OF 2020

Freshman class sign up 5,558 (83 percent) of total freshman class
Sophomore continuing 2,851 (47 percent) of total freshman class continuing on

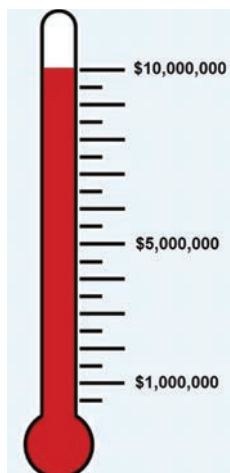
TOTAL PROMISE ENROLLMENT: 4,851

PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Foundation Board accepted a challenge to raise \$10 million dollars before fall of 2019 when the first class of Promise students would enter Harper College. The Challenge was launched with a 5 million dollar contribution from the college.

To date, through many generous donors, we have raised our \$10 million goal ahead of schedule. Thank you for your generosity and support!

The Foundation thanks our generous donors who have contributed to the Promise Scholarship program.



Harper College is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status or sexual orientation. 23548 11/17 JE