

Oklahoma's Promise

OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR ENROLLED STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Oklahoma's Promise website: www.okpromise.org

Remember, you, the student, are ultimately responsible for completing all the requirements of the program.

I. Requirements for Students

If you change high schools between the time you enroll in Oklahoma's Promise (OKPromise) and the time you graduate, inform your new school that you are an OKPromise student and also notify the OKPromise office.

Scholarship Requirements (must be completed by the time the student graduates from high school):

- **Students must strictly follow the 17-unit college preparatory curriculum listed below. Be aware that some courses that qualify for high school graduation requirements do not qualify for OKPromise requirements. For more information, go to the Frequently Asked Questions section at www.okpromise.org.**
- The student must achieve at least a 2.50 cumulative GPA for **all** course work attempted in grades 9 through 12.
- The student must also achieve at least a 2.50 cumulative GPA for the 17-unit OKPromise core curriculum.*

[*Homeschool students and students graduating from a high school not accredited by the Oklahoma State Board of Education must **also** achieve a composite score of 22 or higher on an ACT test reported on an official test report issued by ACT. "Residual" ACT test scores do not qualify.]

- Students with a disability or on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may participate in OKPromise. However, to qualify for the scholarship, the core courses completed by the student must have the same academic content and be of the same academic rigor as the regular college preparatory core courses offered by the high school in the same academic subject. It is important to note that courses titled "Concepts" or "Essentials" exclude students from eligibility for Oklahoma's Promise and do not count toward curricular requirements for college admission.

4	English (grammar, composition, literature: courses should include an integrated writing component)
3	Lab science (biology, chemistry, physics, or any lab science certified by the school district. General science with or without a lab may not be used to meet this requirement)
3	Mathematics (Algebra I, Algebra II, geometry, math analysis, trigonometry, pre-calculus, [must have completed geometry and Algebra II], calculus, statistics and probability, and Advanced Placement [AP] statistics)
3	History and Citizenship skills including 1 unit of American history and 2 units from the subjects of history, economics, geography, government, and/or non-Western Culture.
2	2 units of Foreign or non-English language (two years of the same language) OR 2 units of Computer Technology (courses in programming, hardware, and business computer applications such as word processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics will qualify. Keyboarding or typing classes <u>do not</u> qualify) (1 foreign language & 1 computer course <u>will not</u> meet this requirement.)
1	Additional unit of any of the subjects listed above
1	Fine arts (music, art, or drama) or speech

- The student must also agree to:
 - ❖ attend school regularly and do homework regularly [the student must be in attendance at least 80% of each school year, excluding absences excused by the school];
 - ❖ refrain from substance abuse [the student must not be adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile and not convicted of a crime as an adult by a court of law for an offense involving a controlled dangerous substance];
 - ❖ refrain from criminal or delinquent acts [the student must not be adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile and not convicted of a crime as an adult by a court of law];
 - ❖ have school work and school records reviewed by an appropriate school official;
 - ❖ when requested, provide information to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education or the State Board of Education; and participate in program activities.

II. Program Requirements for Parents

The student's parent(s), custodial parent(s), or guardian(s) must sign the student's agreement and further agree to:

- help the student comply with the program requirements;
- talk with the school contact person or other program personnel when asked to do so;
- when requested, provide information to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education or the State Board of Education;
- help the student complete any forms or reports required for program participation, apply for admission to institutions and schools of higher learning, and file applications for college financial aid.

Parents and students should check with the school contact person at the time of high school graduation to make sure that students who have completed the program have been certified by the contact person to the State Regents for Higher Education. OKPromise awards cannot be made for a student until the school contact person provides the necessary documentation to the State Regents.

III. College Requirements/Information

- Oklahoma's Promise students graduating high school are subject to a second income limit and must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<https://fafsa.gov>) each year they are enrolled in postsecondary education. The information from the FAFSA will be used to determine whether or not the federal adjusted gross income (AGI) of the student's parents exceeds \$100,000 (the income limit will apply to student's income if the student is officially determined to be financially independent of his or her parents). The check of the second income limit will be applied each year the student is enrolled in postsecondary education (college). For any year that the income reported on the student's current FAFSA exceeds \$100,000, the student will not be eligible to receive the OKPromise benefit for that year. If the income is less than \$100,000 in a future year, the student may be eligible for the award that year. Any year that the student does not receive the award because the income exceeds the limit will count toward the five-year period of scholarship eligibility. [For certain students adopted between the ages of birth and 12, the second income limit will be \$150,000. For certain students adopted between the ages of 13 and 17, the second income limit will be \$200,000].
- The student must be a resident of Oklahoma at the time of high school graduation according to the residency policy of the Oklahoma State Regents' for Higher Education (OSRHE policy 3.18 – In-State/Out-of-State Status of Enrolled Students).

[In accordance with this policy, students who are temporarily in the United States on a visa and graduate from an Oklahoma high school are not considered residents of Oklahoma and may not be eligible for the OKPromise award.]

- Students who enroll in Oklahoma's Promise must be a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States at the time they enter postsecondary education to receive the program award. Students who later become a United States citizen or lawfully present may become eligible for the award at that time. Students with temporary DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) immigration status are not eligible to receive the OKPromise scholarship.
- The award can only be used at eligible institutions within Oklahoma. It is not available for students attending colleges/postsecondary institutions outside Oklahoma. Students must enroll in an associate or baccalaureate degree program at an eligible college or in a program that meets the requirements for federal financial aid at a public career technology center. A list of eligible colleges is available at <http://www.okhighered.org/state-system/colleges-universities/list.shtml>. A list of public technology centers is available at <https://www.okcareertech.org/technology-centers>.
- OKPromise students must meet the regular admission requirements for the institution they plan to attend. Students admitted to an institution by special or alternative admission standards are not eligible for the award their first semester of enrollment. Completion of the program's high school requirements does not guarantee admission to an institution of higher education. Admission standards for state public colleges and universities can be found at https://secure.okcollegestart.org/College_Planning/Prepare_for_College/grades_to_make.aspx.
- Students must begin postsecondary education within three years of graduating high school. [Students that cannot meet this three-year deadline due to active military service may receive an extension to the three-year limit. This provision applies only to students serving in the U.S. Armed Services, the Reserve Corps of the U.S. Armed Services and the Oklahoma National Guard.] Please contact the OKPromise office for information regarding exceptions to this requirement.
- Once a student begins postsecondary education, he/she is eligible for benefits for a maximum of five consecutive years or completion of a bachelor's degree, whichever comes first. (For students serving on active military duty during this time period, please contact the OKPromise office for information regarding exceptions to this requirement.).
- The OKPromise award is not allowed for payment of noncredit remedial courses.
- OKPromise awards will not cover courses taken in excess of the requirements for completion of a baccalaureate (undergraduate) degree program.
- For OKPromise students graduating high school in 2018 and thereafter, payment of the scholarship will be limited to 129 semester credit hours. Exceptions to the limit may be considered for degree programs that require more than 129 semester credit hours. Contact the OKPromise office for information regarding exceptions to this requirement.
- The award will not be available for the summer semester immediately following high school graduation. Since official eligibility for the OKPromise award is not determined until high school graduation, eligibility cannot be determined in time to process awards for the first summer semester. The first awards will be available for the fall semester. However, once you are officially verified in our system, you may use the award in summer semesters of later years.

- Once in college, OKPromise students must meet the following requirements to remain eligible for benefits.
 - ✓ OKPromise students receiving the award must maintain “satisfactory academic progress” (SAP) according to the college’s policy as required for eligibility for federal Title IV student financial aid programs. This requirement applies to ALL OKPromise students, even if the student is not currently receiving federal financial aid. Please contact the financial aid office at the institution you are attending for specific questions regarding their SAP policy.
 - ✓ OKPromise students must also meet any other requirements for retention, degree completion, or “good academic standing” as established by the college in which they are enrolled.
 - ✓ An OKPromise student suspended from a college/postsecondary institution for more than one semester for conduct reasons will lose the scholarship permanently.

How is the scholarship amount determined?

- The OKPromise award is not a pre-set amount; the award amount depends upon the institution the student attends and the number of hours in which the student enrolls. **The award is calculated on the resident tuition cost¹ only; the award does not include the cost of other required fees, room and board expenses, books, or other costs related to college attendance.** Tuition rates are set and approved during the summer. These rates will be posted on our website at <http://www.okpromise.org> in July.
- Oklahoma Public Colleges and Universities: **The OKPromise award will equal the resident tuition¹ at Oklahoma public colleges and universities. It does not include the cost of other required fees such as student activity fees, facility fees, library fees, technology fees, health fees, special or remedial course fees, parking fees, etc.** The final amount awarded to each student will vary depending on the tuition rates in effect at the time, the type of institution attended, and the number of credit hours in which the student is enrolled. A list of institutions is available at <http://www.okhighered.org/state-system/colleges-universities/list.shtml>.

Examples of a semester award at public institutions:

Type of Public Institution	Approximate 2019-20 Tuition Rate ⁽¹⁾		Hours Enrolled ⁽²⁾		OKPromise Semester Award
Research University	\$169.00 per credit hr.	X	15	=	\$2,535.00
Regional University	\$187.00 per credit hr.	X	15	=	\$2,805.00
Community College (2 yr.)	\$115.00 per credit hr.	X	15	=	\$1,725.00
Technical Branch (2 yr.)	\$136.00 per credit hr.	X	15	=	\$2,040.00

⁽¹⁾ Tuition rates are subject to change and may be higher or lower at different institutions; an **average** rate is shown. The award is based on the non-guaranteed resident tuition rate. If the student opts for the guaranteed rate of tuition, he/she will be responsible for the cost difference.

⁽²⁾ Enrollment in 12-15 semester credit hours per fall or spring semester is considered full-time enrollment. While students are not required to take a certain number of credit hours each semester, students will need to take 12-15 credit hours per semester to complete a bachelor’s degree within the five-year time period allowed.

- **Oklahoma Independent/Private Colleges and Universities:** The OKPromise award will cover a portion of the tuition at accredited independent/private colleges or universities in Oklahoma. The amount awarded to a student attending an independent/private institution will be equivalent to the amount the student would have received if the student had attended a comparable public institution. Comparability is determined by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Examples of a semester award at independent/private institutions:

Type of Independent Institution	Independent Tuition Rate ¹	OKPromise Award Rate ²		Hours Enrolled ³		OKPromise Semester Award
Research University	\$600 / hr.	\$169.00/ hr.	X	15	=	\$2,535.00
Regional University	\$600 / hr.	\$187.00/ hr.	X	15	=	\$2,805.00
Assoc. degree inst.	\$600 / hr.	\$115.00/ hr.	X	15	=	\$1,725.00

¹The tuition rates shown here are for example only. Actual tuition rates may be higher or lower, and will vary by institution.

²At independent research and regional universities, the OKPromise award is the average of the rates at public institutions.

³Enrollment in 12-15 semester credit hours per fall or spring semester is considered full-time enrollment. While students are not required to take a certain number of credit hours each semester, students will need to take 12-15 credit hours per semester to complete a bachelor's degree within the five-year time period allowed.

- **Public Career Technology Programs:** The OKPromise award will cover at least a portion of the tuition cost for enrollment in certain programs at public career technology centers supervised by the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education. Programs must meet the requirements to be eligible for federal student financial aid. The award is limited to an amount similar to tuition at a public two-year college.

Since the OKPromise award does not pay for all costs associated with college, how will it affect other financial aid or scholarships for which I may be eligible?

- A student receiving an OKPromise award may also receive other financial aid for which the student is eligible, such as the federal Pell Grant, Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG), other academic scholarships, tuition waivers, student loans, etc.
- The only state restriction on other financial aid is that a student receiving the OKPromise award may not receive total financial aid that is more than his/her cost of attending an Oklahoma postsecondary institution, as determined by the institution in which the student is enrolled. If necessary, a student's OKPromise award may be reduced so that the student's total financial aid does not exceed the cost of attendance or budget.
- Students receiving federal financial aid, such as federal Pell Grants, federal student loans, Federal Work-Study (FWS) and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), may be subject to federal regulations that limit other sources of financial aid that the student may receive (such as the OKPromise award).

Funding for the scholarship

- During the 2007 legislative session, the Oklahoma Legislature passed Senate Bill 820 that authorized a dedicated funding source for the OKPromise scholarship beginning in 2008-09. This change should ensure that the program is fully funded each year. However, if at any time there are not enough funds to pay all eligible students, the State Regents are directed by law to use the following priorities to make awards :
 1. OKPromise students who have previously received the award shall receive the award first*; and
 2. OKPromise students eligible to receive the award for the first time shall receive the award second.*

*If funds are not sufficient for all eligible students within the priority category, distribution of the available funds will be based on current financial need.

What if my name or address changes?

- Please contact the OKPromise office if you have a change to your name, your permanent address, your current phone number or your current email address. If there are any changes in the program or if we have any questions, we will need to know how to contact you. There is a simple link for contacting us on our website at www.okpromise.org, look for the “Contact Us” tab.

Information on Oklahoma Colleges and Universities

You can find information on Oklahoma’s colleges and universities as well as financial aid information at www.okcollegestart.org

Oklahoma’s Promise Contact Information

Oklahoma’s Promise
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
PO Box 108850
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-8850

Website: www.okpromise.org
E-mail: okpromise@osrhe.edu
1-800-858-1840 (toll-free information hotline)
(405) 225-9152 (Okla. City local calling area)
FAX: (405) 225-9392

OK Promise Curriculum Worksheet

Please record the letter grade or numerical value on the lines next to the courses completed. (i.e. A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) Each short line indicates $\frac{1}{2}$ unit of credit.

Student Name: _____

ENGLISH: (4 units)

English I	_____	_____	English III	_____	_____
English II	_____	_____	English IV	_____	_____

LAB SCIENCE: (3 units - must be a district certified lab science)

Biology	_____	_____	Physical Science (lab)	_____	_____
Chemistry	_____	_____		_____	_____
Physics	_____	_____		_____	_____

MATH: (3 units)

Algebra I	_____	_____	Trig/Calculus	_____	_____
Geometry	_____	_____	Math Analysis	_____	_____
Algebra II	_____	_____	AP Statistics	_____	_____
Algebra III	_____	_____	Statistics & Prob.	_____	_____

HISTORY AND CITIZENSHIP SKILLS: (3 units - 1 unit must be American/U.S. History)

American History	_____	_____	World History	_____	_____
Oklahoma History	_____	_____	Modern History	_____	_____
Government/Civics	_____	_____	Ancient History	_____	_____
Geography	_____	_____	World Geography	_____	_____
Economics	_____	_____		_____	_____

FOREIGN OR NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE: (2 units of the SAME language)

Spanish I/ Span II	_____	_____	_____	_____	Native Amer. Lang I/II	_____	_____	_____	_____
French I/French II	_____	_____	_____	_____	Sign Language I/II	_____	_____	_____	_____
German I/German II	_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____	_____	_____

OR

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY: (2 units - not including keyboarding or typing)

ADDITIONAL COURSE: (1 unit of the subjects listed above)

FINE ARTS OR SPEECH:

(1 unit of music, art, drama or Speech - competencies WILL count if noted on the transcript.)

ACT Score: _____	17-unit OHLAP Core GPA (must be 2.50 or above)	_____
Required for non-accredited schools and homeschooled students	Overall GPA (transcript) (must be a 2.50 or above)	_____