

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY

PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.)

1) How do I know if I qualify for the Independence Promise scholarship?

To qualify you must:

- Attend Batesville, Cedar Ridge, Midland, or Southside School District
- Achieve the following to be eligible for college enrollment at UACCB or Lyon College:

Reading Course Placement			
	UACCB		Lyon
COURSE	ACT READING		ACT READING
College Level Courses	Minimum of 19	-or-	Minimum of 20
			Minimum of 78 in Reading

English Course Placement			
	UACCB		Lyon
COURSE	ACT ENGLISH		ACT ENGLISH
College Level English	Minimum of 19	-or-	Minimum of 20
			Minimum of 83 in Sentence Skills

Math Course Placement			
	UACCB		Lyon
COURSE	ACT MATH		ACT MATH
College Level Mathematics	Minimum of 19	-or-	Minimum of 20
			Minimum of 42 in College Math

Grade Point Average	
UACCB	MINIMUM 3.0 GPA
Lyon College	MINIMUM 3.25 GPA

- Meet all other college admission requirements of UACCB or Lyon College.
- Have 90% attendance and punctuality record during all high school semesters (9th grade onward).
- Have a career plan to earn a credential leading directly to employment or obtain credit hours in courses that fit the criteria of the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS).

2) What kind of student should consider applying for the Independence Promise scholarship program?

- Any student who has completed the 8th grade, meets college admission requirements of the respective college at which they wish to enroll, and meets Independence Promise guidelines may apply for the scholarship to financially assist them in their academic pursuit.
- 3) At which colleges and training centers can I use my scholarship?
 - Lyon College – [Admissions](#)
 - University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville – [Admissions](#)
 - UACCB Secondary Area Career Center - [Admissions](#)
 - 4) What do I need to do to be awarded the Independence Promise scholarship?
 - Meet eligibility criteria each semester.
 - Complete an Independence Promise scholarship application online each semester at **impact.batesvilleareaalliance.com/promise** by Apr. 1st (for Fall coursework) or Nov. 1st (for spring coursework) for first review.
 - 5) What happens after I have gone online and applied for the scholarship?
 - Your high school counselor or career coach will review and verify your submitted scholarship application.
 - Once verified by your school district, the application will be forwarded to Independence Promise program staff for review.
 - Program staff will compare applications and available funding and make scholarship decisions.
 - Program staff will offer scholarship opportunities following the review process.
 - Students must accept the scholarship and enroll in classes with their high school counselor or career coach in order to receive the scholarship.
 - 6) How are the Independence Promise scholarship funds distributed?
 - The total limit of scholarship assistance to all students is based on funds available.
 - After student contracts have been completed and awards are accepted, the Independence County Public Education Foundation will issue a check with a ledger to each institution for payment.
 - The institution will collect the student and school portion of payment for coursework.
 - 7) What does the Independence Promise scholarship pay for?
 - After the student has paid his/her amount per course (based on national student lunch status chart below), their high school and the Independence Promise scholarship program will partner to cover the rest of up to two (2) courses per semester (Fall and Spring) and the required annual transcript fee at UACCB (if applicable).

Free Lunch	Reduced Lunch	Paid Lunch
\$40 PER ENROLLED COURSE	\$70 PER ENROLLED COURSE	\$100 PER ENROLLED COURSE

Textbooks, course materials, and transportation are the responsibility of the student. All students are encouraged to check with their high school counselor or career coach on these additional expenses as their school may have a textbook or course material lending library and may provide transportation.

- Courses that result in a student following a career plan to earn a credential leading directly to employment or courses that fit the criteria of the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) in pursuit of a degree. Enrollment in any course is subject to course availability at the respective college or training center.

8) Does the scholarship program provide transportation to classes?

- No, the scholarship program does not provide transportation to courses on any college campus. However, each student is encouraged to check with his/her high school counselor or career coach, as some high schools provide transportation.

9) What do I have to do to maintain the Independence Promise scholarship?

- Maintain a 2.5 overall GPA and a final grade of “C” or higher for all college-level coursework for continued scholarship program eligibility. Students who do not earn a “C” or higher in enrolled coursework may not be eligible for the scholarship in the future.
- Per the student agreement, students who do not earn a “C” or higher in enrolled coursework will be required to repay funds paid on the student’s behalf in support of that coursework to their high school counselor or career coach.
- Reapply for the scholarship each semester.

10) Once I have been awarded the Independence Promise scholarship, am I automatically awarded funds every semester?

- No, every student must complete an application each semester by the deadline of Apr. 1st (Fall coursework) and Nov. 1st (Spring coursework).

11) How is the Independence Promise scholarship funded?

The Independence County Public Education Foundation created the Independence Promise scholarship program to give Independence County students equitable access to higher education and training programs. The program is a true public (schools and institutions), private (donors and institutions), and personal (students and families) investment. Donations are accepted on an ongoing basis.

12) Who do I contact for more information about the Independence Promise scholarship?

Please contact:

Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce

409 Vine Street Batesville, AR 72501

870-793-2378