



**PANHANDLE
PROMISE**

2024-2025 Scholarship Application

Send application to: PO Box 430, Goodwell, OK 73939

For questions: Call: 580.349.1490 or email: charla.lewis@opsu.edu

This scholarship is for students who will be enrolled FULL TIME at OPSU in 2024-2025 in a traditional education degree pathway.

To be eligible for Panhandle Promise Scholarship please email the following application to Dr. Lewis, Director of Teacher Education, with your most recent UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT, *ACT or SAT Score, proof of FAFSA, proof of application of three other scholarships, three letters of recommendation, Commitment to Work Agreement and essay by June 1, 2024.

Applications will only be accepted by email and must be emailed to: charla.lewis@opsu.edu

Legal

Name _____

First

Middle

Last

Mailing

Address _____

Address

City

State

Zip

Email Address (required): _____

Name of High School: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

High School City: _____

High School State: _____

Receiving OK Promise or OHLAP?

___ Yes ___ No

Receiving financial aid/grants?

___ Yes ___ No

ALL STUDENTS:

Anticipated Classification in Fall 2024 (Select one):

___ Fr. (0-28 hours) ___ So. (29-59 hours) ___ Jr. (60-89 hours) ___ Sr. (90+ hours)

Major: _____

Minor: _____

OPSU ID#: _____

ACT Score: _____

Cumulative GPA (non-weighted, based on a 4.0 scale): _____



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INCOMING FRESHMEN: *(concurrent students fill out both sections)*

Have you applied for FAFSA? _____ Yes _____ No

Did you take concurrent classes? _____ Yes _____ No

Have you been accepted to OPSU? _____ Yes _____ No

STUDENTS WITH COLLEGE CREDIT: *(concurrent students fill out both sections)*

Most recent college attended: _____

City of college: _____ State of college: _____

If transfer student, date of transfer to OPSU: _____

Number of hours transferring: _____

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

By signing, you grant Oklahoma Panhandle State University Panhandle Promise Scholarship Selection Committee permission to view your educational records on file with OPSU as needed. You also grant Oklahoma Panhandle State University permission, if you are selected for this scholarship, to use your submitted thank you letter, picture, and directory information as needed.

The ACT® and SAT® are approved assessments of general knowledge. The passing score for the ACT® shall be a composite score of 22 with the writing section included. The passing score for the SAT® shall be a total score of 1120 including the following scores on the essay section: five (5) on Reading, four (4) on Analysis, and five (5) on Writing.



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THE PANHANDLE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITMENT FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY THE STUDENT EACH ACADEMIC SEMESTER. THE STUDENT MUST ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

1. Must maintain continuous enrollment at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in an education pathway
2. Maintain a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.5 in the program of study.
3. Successfully complete at least 15 credit hours each for each spring and fall semester. Students may take up to 6 credit hours in the summer, not to exceed 36 hours annually.
4. Length of scholarship eligibility will be determined by the classification of the student. Freshmen will be eligible for a term that does not exceed 4.5 years, sophomores 3.5 years, juniors 2.5 years, and seniors 1.5 years.
5. Maintain student conduct codes as cited in the OPSU Student Handbook.
6. Submit a completed FAFSA that includes the OPSU code number by the deadline.
7. Commit to work as a classroom teacher in an Oklahoma panhandle public school for two years.
8. I, _____, have read and agree to the Default and Breach Agreement included in the application packet.
9. I, _____, understand that I must fulfill a two-year work commitment as a classroom teacher in an Oklahoma panhandle public school after graduation. Employment must begin by August 1st following graduation.
10. I have been provided with a copy of the Scholarship rules and by signing this Commitment and Agreement I acknowledge the consequences of failure to comply with the Scholarship rules. Initial _____

COMMITMENT TO WORK AGREEMENT:

I, _____, understand and acknowledge that the Panhandle Promise Scholarship program contains a two-year work obligation upon graduation and do hereby agree to the following terms and conditions of such work obligation. I further understand that if I do not maintain eligibility for the Panhandle Promise Scholarship program or fulfill the service repayment, I will be required to reimburse Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU) the monies received by me or paid on my behalf.



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I understand that the Panhandle Promise Scholarship will cover the remaining balance of tuition and fees as funds are available at OPSU after my financial aid is applied (not including loans) each semester. The Panhandle Promise Scholarship cannot be applied to fines or other allowable charges on my account other than tuition and fees. I understand that the Panhandle Promise Scholarship will only pay for one repeat of a previous course. More than one repeated course will not be calculated in my enrollment status pertaining to the Panhandle Promise Scholarship.

Initial _____

I understand that by signing this contract I will be obligated to work as a classroom teacher in a public school physically located in either Cimarron, Texas, or Beaver Counties in the Oklahoma panhandle for two years as agreed to on the Panhandle Promise Scholarship Commitment Form I signed. In the case that I am unable to fulfill my commitment to work obligation or in the case of extreme hardship, as determined by the Scholarship Director, the work obligation and/or any damages for non-compliance may be waived partially or totally by the Scholarship Appeal Committee. If I am selected for a classroom teaching position in a public school in the Oklahoma panhandle and complete my work obligation, the repayment obligation will be deemed satisfied in full.

I understand that I must notify the Scholarship Director of my place of employment every six months in writing or immediately in the event I transfer to a new eligible workplace. I understand that I will be obligated to reimburse OPSU for all scholarship monies received by me or paid on my behalf if any of the following should occur:

- I do not maintain continuous enrollment and communication with the Scholarship Director.
- I do not complete my degree within the timeline listed (Maintenance Criteria 5)
- I am suspended from the college (conduct, grades, etc.)
- I change my field of study
- I fail to communicate with the Scholarship Director regarding my employment
- I fail to complete the work commitment obligation
- I fail to report a change in my employment status to the Scholarship Director within thirty days

I understand that if I am required to fulfill the reimbursement requirement instead of my work obligation, I must make satisfactory payment arrangements with OPSU upon receipt of notification of reimbursement. Unpaid accounts will be assigned to collection within 90 days.



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Initial _____

I understand the terms presented in this contract and policies presented in the application represent an agreement between parties and I certify that I have not relied upon any other representations made to me, either orally or in writing, in making my decision to sign this document and participate in this program.

I understand that if I do not maintain eligibility for the Panhandle Promise Scholarship program or fail to fulfill the work commitment, that OPSU may take legal action against me which will include the total amount of monies paid to me or on my behalf and any and all attorney fees, filing fees, and other costs incurred in the collecting of this debt from me.

By signing below, I declare that I have read the above agreement and consent to its terms and conditions. I further declare that I am of legal age and have the right to execute this agreement in my own name.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____



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APPLICATION CRITERIA:

1. Must be currently admitted to and enrolled in Oklahoma Panhandle State University with an education degree path
2. Incoming freshmen must have a high school GPA of 2.75; transfer and current students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75.
3. By the application's deadline, submit a completed FAFSA that includes the OPSU code number and show evidence of application for at least three private scholarships (which may include OPSU Foundation scholarships)
4. Must have received a composite score of 22+ on the ACT with the writing section included or a total score of 1120+ SAT including the following scores on the essay section: five (5) on Reading, four (4) on Analysis, and five (5) on Writing, **OR** current college general education GPA is 3.0+ (a minimum of 30 hours).
5. Must submit three (3) letters of recommendation from teachers, employers, administrators, etc. not related to the applicant.
6. Submit an essay that provides background information, future aspirations as an educator, and what it would mean to the applicant to be awarded this scholarship.
7. Must commit to work as a classroom teacher in an Oklahoma Panhandle public school for two years immediately after graduation

MAINTENANCE CRITERIA:

1. Maintain continuous enrollment at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in an education pathway
2. Maintain a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.5 in the program of study
3. Successfully complete a minimum of 15 hours each Spring and Fall semester, excluding the student teaching semester (12 hours). The annual maximum number of hours cannot exceed 36.
4. Continue to submit FAFSA each year and show proof of application and/or renewal for at least three (3) outside scholarships (which may include OPSU Foundation scholarships)
5. Length of scholarship eligibility will be determined by the classification of the student. Freshmen will be eligible for a term that does not exceed 4.5 years, sophomores 3.5 years, juniors 2.5 years, and seniors 1.5 years.
6. Maintain student conduct codes as cited in the OPSU Student Handbook.
7. Cannot be suspended from the college (conduct, grades, etc.)
8. Cannot change field of study
9. Cannot fail to communicate with the scholarship director regarding employment
10. Cannot fail to complete the work commitment obligation
11. Cannot fail to report a change in employment status to the scholarship director within thirty days



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PROCESS:

Deadline for scholarship applications is June 1. (This way we will know about the GAP for students.)

The selection committee will meet in June and review applications in light of the rubric.

Recipients will be notified by July 1.

Students may apply their senior year of high school, as transfer students, or as current OPSU education students.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Alumni president or Designee

Foundation president or Designee

Two Industry representatives (two-year term)

Public education representative (superintendent, two-year term)

Two Teacher Education Council members (one-year term)

Dean of the College of Arts and Education

Director of Teacher Education (Scholarship Director)

Note: two-year term and one-year term members will be appointed by the Director of Teacher Education and the Dean of the College of Arts and Education