



What is a The Brown County Promise?

Rather than have students compete for a limited number of scholarships each year, the Tracy Family Foundation promises a post-secondary education scholarship to any Brown County student that meets basic eligibility requirements at high school graduation. The Tracy Family Foundation is making this promise to Brown County students because RT and Dorothy Tracy believed that education provides opportunity. RT and Dorothy started Dot Foods in Brown County and all twelve of their children graduated from Brown County High School. This investment in Brown County students honors RT and Dorothy's legacy of generosity and helps students achieve post-secondary success.

Brown County Promise Summary

BC Promise Goal	The Tracy Family Foundation's goal is for at least 75% of BCHS graduates to earn a post-secondary credential within 5 years of high school graduation. A post-secondary credential includes a trade or career certificate, associate degree, or bachelor degree.
BC Promise Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the College & Career Pathways assessment at BCHS <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with BCHS Guidance Staff at least 2 times <input type="checkbox"/> Complete at least 1 mock interview <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the ACT <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> Admission to an accredited college or university <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate from BCHS and plan to enroll at an accredited college or university within 1 year of high school graduation
BC Promise Awards	<p>\$2,000 first year, \$3,000 second year, \$4,000 third year, and \$5,000 fourth year at a 4-year college or university</p> <p>OR \$2,000 first year, \$3,000 second year, up to two years, at a trade or technical school towards a trade certificate or associate degree</p> <p>OR up to \$4,000 (full tuition for most students), up to two years, at John Wood Community College towards a trade certificate or associate degree</p>
BC Promise Gold Requirements	<p>BCHS graduates can qualify for BC Promise Gold scholarships if they complete all of the BC Promise Eligibility Requirements above AND they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete a job shadow and/or interview with 2 people in potential careers <input type="checkbox"/> Complete at least 2 post-secondary college visits or meetings with college staff <input type="checkbox"/> Complete 25 volunteer service hours during high school career <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in 3 extra-curricular activities during high school career
BC Promise Gold Awards	<p>\$3,000 first year, \$4,000 second year, \$5,000 third year, and \$6,000 fourth year at a 4-year college or university</p> <p>OR \$3,000 first year, \$4,000 second year, up to two years, at a trade or technical school towards a trade certificate or associate degree</p> <p>OR up to \$4,000 (full tuition for most students), up to two years, at John Wood Community College towards a trade certificate or associate degree, plus a \$500/year bonus for education related expenses</p>

Additional Details

If a student begins in a 2-year program but transfers to a 4-year program without any interruption, then they are eligible for the 4-year awards that match their status at the 4-year college or university. The scholarship must be used in 4 consecutive years. An exception can be made if a student is enrolled as a full-time student studying abroad for a maximum of one year at an accredited college or university.

Students must begin post-secondary education within 1 year of their high school graduation and be full-time (minimum of 12 hours/semester).

BC Promise students must be Brown County residents and must attend and graduate from Brown County High School with at least 5 years of continuous attendance (8th grade through graduation) in the Brown County School District at high school graduation. If a student has less than 5 years, but at least 2 years of continual attendance, then they are eligible for 50% of the BC Promise award. Exceptions may be made in extraordinary circumstances where student enrollment was impacted by sickness, family dynamics, or other circumstances outside of a student or their family's control. Students must seek an exception by submitting a letter to high school guidance staff that explains why they believe an exception is warranted. The Brown County High School principal, Tracy Family Foundation, and Scholarship America will make final decisions on student eligibility.

Enrollment in the Brown County School District includes enrollment at Brown County Public Schools or St. Mary Catholic School.

About the Tracy Family Foundation

The Tracy Family Foundation (TFF) was established in 1997 by the Robert and Dorothy Tracy family to advance innovative, collaborative, and sustainable change in Brown County, Illinois, and the surrounding region through organizations that share the values of family, faith, education, leadership, and community. TFF seeks to cultivate a philanthropic spirit in all generations of the Robert and Dorothy Tracy family by providing opportunities for the family to give and serve together. Learn more by visiting www.tracyfoundation.org.