

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

College is for you!

(Yes, you!)

What is college?

- ▶ Most education or training after high school is called “college”
- ▶ Technical Certificates can be earned at TCATs (TN College for Applied Technology) and some community colleges (like Pellissippi!)
- ▶ Associate Degrees can be earned at community colleges or some private colleges. (Think Pellissippi or South college)
- ▶ Bachelor Degrees can be earned at four-year universities or private colleges (Think UT or East Tennessee State University)
 - ▶ You can also earn a Bachelor degree by starting out with your associate degree at a community college and then transferring to a four year. For example: Two years at Pellissippi and then two years at UT= Bachelor degree

TN Promise Scholarship

- ▶ Last-dollar scholarship that covers the tuition and mandatory fees at any TN community college or TCAT. Some private four-year institutions also apply for a tuition discount if student is in associate degree program.
- ▶ Regardless of what you want to do after high school, applying to TN Promise can keep you on track and help you make a plan.
- ▶ Why apply?
 - ▶ Great option to make college affordable
 - ▶ Required for UT Promise eligibility
 - ▶ Use it as a back up plan
 - ▶ Start at a community college and transfer to a four-year later

Eligibility for TN Promise

- ▶ Be a high school senior and graduate from high school (or HiSet equivalency)
- ▶ Resident of Tennessee
- ▶ No income or GPA requirement (in high school)

Requirements to keep TN Promise

- Apply for TN Promise by November 3, 2025
- Attend your mandatory meeting at your high school
- Complete the FAFSA by APRIL 1st, 2026
- Submit 16 hours of community service by August 1
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA

Submit a college application

- ▶ College applications are not a commitment to a certain college. They are a way to get on their radar and learn more about them!
- ▶ Fit vs. Match
- ▶ Apply to at least 3 schools: Dream, Target, and Safety
- ▶ Sometimes applications have a fee. These can range from \$20-\$100 depending on the school but you may be able to get fee waivers.
- ▶ Most college applications are found on the college's website on the front page
- ▶ Ensure that you submit transcripts, immunization records, and any other documentation needed for your application to be complete.

FAFSA Tips!

- ▶ The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid- this is how you apply to all kinds of scholarships and grants. **It's also a requirement for TN Promise and many other scholarships!!**
- ▶ Create an FSA ID now!! Both you and your parent will need one in most cases-- Get started at [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- ▶ Start early- it can be a long process
- ▶ Answer honestly and accurately
- ▶ Make sure to sign at the end!
- ▶ Never use someone else's information to create your account, fill out the FAFSA, or reset your username/passwords
- ▶ OPENS OCTOBER 1st
- ▶ DUE APRIL 1ST

Class of 2026- Senior Checklist

- ▶ Complete TN Promise application by November 3RD , 2025
- ▶ If interested in UT, complete UT Promise application by December 15th 2025
- ▶ Submit at least 1 college application
- ▶ Create an FSA ID (and parents make one, too!)
- ▶ Complete the FAFSA by April 1st , 2026
- ▶ Submit transcripts and immunization records
- ▶ Submit 16 hours of community service by August 1 2026
- ▶ Attend orientation for your selected college
- ▶ Register full time for the Fall 2026 semester

College Access Coach

- ▶ Ms. Allison Johnson
- ▶ Phone: 865-200-0751
- ▶ Email: Allison@tnachieves.org
- ▶ Instagram: @allisontnachieves (follow for reminders and college tips!)
- ▶ You can make an appointment with me!
- ▶ Can help with TN Promise, FAFSA, college apps, and all things college or post-graduation plans (this includes apprenticeships, full-time work, or military!)

