

Kick Start Scholarship

The PTCC Kick Start scholarship is a PTCC Foundation-supported scholarship for students directly out of high school who were eligible for the free and reduced lunch meal program during their senior year. The scholarship provides one year of free tuition and up to a \$1,000 scholarship for books, tools, and supplies. Scholarship funds will cover any remaining tuition and fees after the student's Federal Pell grant and Minnesota state grant funds have been applied to the student's account.

Funding

- 1 year of tuition and fees *after* the student's Federal Pell grant and Minnesota state grant funds have been applied to the student's account
- Up to \$1,000 in funds for books, tools, and supplies

Eligible High Schools

- Braham High School
- Chisago Lakes High School
- East Central High School
- Hinckley-Finlayson High School
- Isle High School
- Mora High School
- North Branch High School
- Ogilvie High School
- Pine City High School
- Rush City High School
- Willow River High School
- Home school students within the district service areas listed above.

Eligible Programs

All programs are eligible.

Applying for the Scholarship

Students interested in applying for the Kick Start Scholarship must complete the following items:

1. Apply to Pine Technical and Community College
2. Complete the scholarship application
3. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Scholarship Requirements

First Year

1. Enroll full time (minimum 12 credits per semester) in a certificate, diploma, or associate degree program in the semester immediately following the receipt of high school diploma.
2. Register for and successfully complete the 2 credit CCPD 1010 Success Strategies for College and Career Development course
3. Meet with a scholarship advisor at least one time per semester
4. Maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA and 67% completion rate

Tools and Textbook Scholarships: Usage Guide (For Students)

With your scholarship you are eligible for up to \$1,000 in funds for textbooks, tools, or supplies. You must complete the FAFSA to be eligible to use this scholarship. Your scholarship will cover any remaining tuition and fees after your Federal Pell Grant and MN/WI State grant have been applied to your account. Any remaining tools and textbook scholarship balance can be used the following semester.

Textbook purchases

- Purchase textbooks from PTCC Campus Store using a financial aid voucher (non-PTCC Campus Store textbook purchases are not eligible for scholarship funding)
- Financial aid vouchers will be available one week prior to the first day of classes through the first week of the semester.
- What to bring to the campus store
 - Photo ID
 - Printed course schedule from e-services
 - Student ID number

Tool and supply purchases

- Review tool list (contact program advisor or student affairs for the tool list)
- Get detailed quote of tools/supplies to purchase that must include the following information:
 - Student name
 - Sales tax
- Bring quote to Business Services
- Process is available the first two weeks of the semester.

Currently approved vendors

- NAPA – Josh Mohr, Pine City, MN – 320-629-2527
- SnapOn – Dan Nelson – 612-202-4890
- MATCO Tools – Chris Streng – 763-370-7296
- Oxygen Service Co. – Troy Rapaway – 320-267-0756

If you would like to use a vendor not listed or have additional questions, contact PTCC Business Services at 320-629-5182.

Kick Start Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Who is eligible for the scholarship?

A: Class of 2020, 2021, and 2022 high school graduates from Braham, Chisago Lakes, East Central, Hinckley-Finlayson, Isle, Mora, North Branch, Ogilvie, Pine City, Rush City, and Willow River.

Q: Are homeschool students eligible for the scholarship?

A: Potentially. Students should live within an eligible school district service area. Students should reach out to the PTCC Foundation to confirm eligibility.

Q: How much does the scholarship cover?

A: This scholarship will cover any remaining tuition and fees after the student's Federal Pell Grant and MN State Grant have been applied, and up to a \$1,000 scholarship for books, tools, and supplies will be available. (See *Materials and Supplies Scholarship Usage Guide* for details.)

Q: How long can I use the scholarship?

A: A maximum of one year (three semesters – fall, spring, summer). A student must maintain eligibility requirements to use the scholarship for the entire duration.

Q: What are the eligibility requirements?

A: Student must:

1. Be eligible for the Free and Reduced Price Meal program during your senior year of high school
2. Apply and be enrolled in a certificate, diploma, or associate degree at Pine Technical and Community College, beginning in the semester following receipt of a high school diploma
3. Complete the scholarship application
4. Complete the FAFSA application annually, prior to the start each fall semester.
5. Successfully complete a minimum of 12 credits each semester during the academic year
6. Maintain a 2.0 GPA and 67% completion rate
7. Meet with the scholarship advisor each semester
8. Successfully complete the CCPD 1010 Success Strategies for College and Career Development course.

Q: I took a college course in high school. Can I get credit for it here?

A: Many college courses taken in high school will transfer. It will depend on what class and what program major a student has declared to determine if it meets a program requirement. Contact Molly McCann Transfer Specialist at mollyann.mccann@pine.edu for specific transfer questions.

Q: Who is my scholarship advisor and how do I contact them?

A: Erin White, Student Success Advisor. Erin.White@pine.edu or 320-629-4574 (text or call)

Q: What if I do not meet with my scholarship advisor?

A: You will not be eligible for the scholarship the following semester.

Q: How do PTCC staff confirm Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility?

A: This is self-certified on the scholarship application. The easiest way to verify eligibility is for students to submit an additional document from the high school. After a student submits the FAFSA, PTCC financial aid staff may need to request additional information based on FAFSA information.

Q: What if I do not pass Success Strategies for College and Career Development, which is a requirement of the scholarship?

A: You will be required to retake the course. This course is designed to assist students in exploring and developing the academic skills necessary to succeed in college as self-directed, life-long learners, as well as the personal skills to manage their college life and set them up for success in their future careers. Students will be introduced to college and

community resources and tools for academic success, including skills in stress management, financial literacy, critical thinking, and creative problem solving.

Q: What if I do not meet the GPA requirement?

A: You will be at risk of losing eligibility to receive the scholarship the following semester and must meet with your assigned scholarship advisor to determine appropriate next steps.

Q: Can I use the Tools and Textbook scholarship to purchase a laptop?

A: Yes, if a laptop is a requirement of the program. Tools and textbooks funds must be spent in accordance with the *Tools and Textbook Scholarships: Usage Guide*.