

# THE PHOENIX PACT

*NLCP graduate K.R. was accepted into many colleges. But like most young people, there was one college where she really wanted to go. In her case, that was the University of Illinois.*

*But her financial aid letter said she had to pay \$2,500 per year to go there. Her family couldn't afford it.*

*NLCP was there to help. Because K.R. had good grades in high school, and because the University of Illinois has a strong track record graduating minority students, NLCP gave K.R. a special scholarship to pay the \$2,500 for four years!*

*She is having a great time in Champaign now, majoring in Business.*

*The Phoenix Pact will make this same opportunity available to future NLCP graduates— so that more students will have a chance to go college where they will be happy and successful.*

*Is it really that important to get a B average and go to a Success College? It sure is! NLCP has graduated more than 1,500 young people. Those who had a B average or better and went to a Success College did really well in college. Over 80% earned a degree. It is the "daily double" to success after high school!*

## Information for students and their families

### What is The Phoenix Pact?

The Phoenix Pact is a program that makes it possible for graduates of North Lawndale College Prep to go to colleges where they are most likely to succeed, rather than having to settle for colleges they can afford.

### Why do we need The Phoenix Pact?

Colleges are not all the same.

Some colleges know how to support NLCP graduates and minority students. They work hard to make sure that all their students have a great college experience and earn a degree. We call these "Success Colleges."

But there are lots of colleges that don't do this. At these colleges, half or more of their students drop-out without a degree – often with crushing loan debt.

NLCP wants its graduates to go to Success Colleges, not these other colleges. Sometimes, Success Colleges have higher out-of-pocket costs, which our graduates can't afford.

NLCP graduates deserve to go to colleges where they will have a great experience and degree, without cost standing in the way. The Phoenix Pact makes this happen.

### What does The Phoenix Pact do?

#### Awards

scholarships so you can go to a Success College with no out-of-pocket cost.

#### Secures

grants to limit your loan debt to a manageable amount.

#### Provides

you with free access to various on-campus support services.

#### Links

you to counselors who can help troubleshoot issues while in college.

### Who is eligible for The Phoenix Pact?

**You qualify automatically if you:**

- are a graduate of North Lawndale College Prep Class of 2015 or later;
- qualify for maximum federal Pell grant funding;
- earned a cumulative, weighted GPA of 3.0 or better upon graduation from NLCP;
- enroll full-time at an approved Success College;
- make satisfactory academic progress while in college;—and—
- submit all required forms by the specified due dates.

**If you do not qualify automatically, you can ask for a special review.**

**The Review Committee may grant you a scholarship anyway, in its discretion.**

*For more information about The Phoenix Pact visit [www.phoenixpact.org](http://www.phoenixpact.org)*

# THE PHOENIX PACT

Connecting Successful Students with Successful Colleges

## Why is The Phoenix Pact only available to students with a B average or better?

The aim of the Phoenix Pact is to connect successful students with successful colleges. Students with a B average or better have done what they were supposed to at NLCP and we're honoring that work. Also, there is lots of research, as well as NLCP's own experience, showing that students who earn a B average or better in high school are much more likely to earn a college degree. However, even if you have a GPA less than 3.0, you may still be able to receive a discretionary Phoenix Pact Scholarship by applying for a special review.

## Which colleges are approved Success Colleges?

Only certain colleges are part of this program. Phoenix Pact Scholarships can be used only at these colleges. These are colleges that (1) have track records of successfully graduating under-represented minority students; and (2) have agreed to cap out-of-pocket costs and ultimate loan debt. The list of approved Success Colleges can be found here: [www.phoenixpact.org](http://www.phoenixpact.org)

## How do I apply for a Phoenix Pact Scholarship?

There is a form on The Phoenix Pact website that you submit online. You must re-apply prior to each semester of college. Phoenix Pact Scholarships only cover costs for one semester of college at a time.

## How much is a Phoenix Pact Scholarship?

It depends on the college you attend. In almost all cases, Phoenix Pact Scholarships will be enough so you will not have to pay anything out-of-pocket now for tuition, fees, or room and board.

## Does this mean college is free?

No. You will have to take out some loans to help cover your tuition, fees, and room and board. Those loans will have to be re-paid when you leave college. However, approved Success Colleges have agreed to limit total loan debt to a manageable amount.

You will also have to pay for your books, travel costs, and everyday living costs while on campus. Approved Success Colleges have agreed to provide work study opportunities to help you cover these expenses.

## Do Phoenix Pact Scholarships ever have to be paid back?

No. But we hope you will choose voluntarily to "pay it forward" to others in some way (for example, coming back to NLCP to mentor students).

## Can I keep getting Phoenix Pact Scholarships for as long as I am in college?

No. You can only receive eight Phoenix Pact Scholarships, covering eight semesters (or four years) of college. Also, you can only receive Phoenix Pact Scholarships during the first six years after graduation from NLCP. After that, you must apply for a special review.

## Will a Phoenix Pact Scholarship make it easier for me to get into college?

No. Colleges will not adjust their admissions criteria for NLCP students. To earn a Phoenix Pact Scholarship, you must first get admitted into an approved Success College, on your own record.

## Who Qualifies as Maximum Pell Eligible?

This is determined using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can use a forecasting tool on the FAFSA website to determine if you meet this threshold.

## Is there a limit on how many students may earn Phoenix Pact Scholarships each year?

No. The Phoenix Pact Fund is assembling enough assets so that scholarships can be paid to all qualifying NLCP graduates, each year, for many years to come.

*The terms of The Phoenix Pact are subject to change at any time. The Phoenix Pact Fund reserves the right to change any aspect of the program, including criteria for eligibility for scholarships and the amount of the scholarships. NLCP and the colleges reserve the right to discontinue participation in The Phoenix Pact. Any disputes regarding The Phoenix Pact are subject to arbitration.*

For more information about The Phoenix Pact visit [www.phoenixpact.org](http://www.phoenixpact.org)