

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Will Michigan break its promise to its young college students?**  
**[www.michiganpromisescholarship.com](http://www.michiganpromisescholarship.com) lets Michigan students voice**  
**their views to lawmakers**

**LANSING, Mich.** – As lawmakers prepare to break their promise by eliminating funding for the the Michigan Promise Scholarship, several organizations are helping affected students and their families voice their views to lawmakers.

[www.michiganpromisescholarship.com](http://www.michiganpromisescholarship.com) provides viewers with information about the scholarship, links to newspaper articles, columns and editorials on the matter, and an opportunity to communicate directly with their legislators, legislative leaders and Gov. Granholm.

“Democracy only works when the people communicate with their representatives. We are giving those who believe that Michigan is breaking its promise to young people an opportunity to let lawmakers know how they feel,” said Michael A. Boulus, executive director, Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan. “Michigan has cut per student higher education funding by more than any other state – down 22 percent since 2003. Now it is cutting scholarships to students. This is a poor economic development decision.”

“Michigan’s high school students have been promised for nearly a decade that if they study hard, do well in school, and complete at least two years of college they will be rewarded,” said Jim Ballard, executive director of the Michigan High School Principals Association. “Breaking our word to those students will send a message to them about government for years to come.”

More than 96,000 students are now eligible for Michigan Promise Scholarships. Thousands entered college this fall after receiving letters from the state saying they would receive the initial \$500 for the first semester, and planning to receive the second installment of \$500 for the second semester.

Now students are facing having pay back that \$500, or else universities and community colleges will cut their budgets even further to absorb the reduction.

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