

Helping Youth Get to College

Small Savings = Big Dreams for Young Children

Most college scholarships are awarded to a high school senior who is already planning to attend school. Sure, college is expensive and all students can use more help to cover costs. But here's something to think about. ***Awarding a scholarship to a younger student, could be more impactful.***

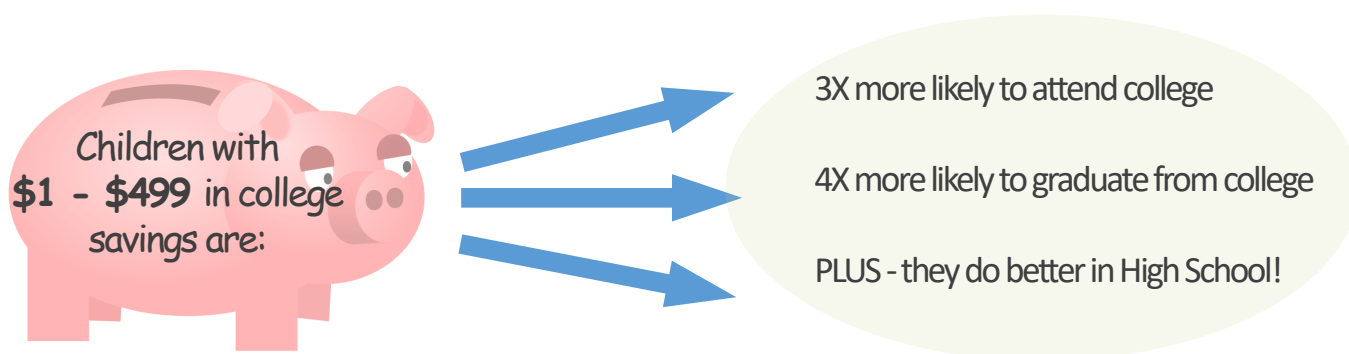
Research shows kids with money set aside for college know that someone believes in them, so they work harder and do better in school. Having even a small amount set aside sends a powerful message and makes a big difference to a young child's future.

Your scholarship can change a life.

Consider awarding a scholarship to a middle school child who:

- Has great potential
- Has limited means
- Is a first-generation college student
- May never dream of going to college

Your organization helps a student that may not make it to college without you!



Promise the scholarship early, then award the money at graduation. Your program could be the difference between school or no school in a young child's future.

Learn more at fyi.uwex.edu/collegesavings.

See the back for steps to get started —>

Starting a Middle School Scholarship:

Step 1: What age or grade in school do you want for your middle school scholarship?

Step 2: What amount of money works for your organization and how will you save it?

- Bank account in your organization's name.
- 3 or 5 year CD that makes a little more interest.

Step 3: What partners will help you by referring students to your scholarship?

- Teachers & Guidance Counselors.
- Youth Groups – 4H, Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, Churches, Community groups.

Step 4: When will you award your scholarship?

- This is a perfect time to hold a ceremony & celebrate the child's future.

Step 5: How will you keep in touch with your scholarship student?

- Every year send a letter to remind the student about the money waiting for them.
- Ask how school is going & provide encouragement.
- Invite the student to future scholarship awards to serve as a role model.

Final Step: How will you celebrate?

- Hold a celebration when the student graduates from high school or is accepted into college.



Awarding a scholarship to a young student may raise some questions at your organization. What if the student:

- Drops out of High School or College?
- Moves away and we can't locate the family?
- Gets into trouble/isn't a good role model in High School?

You can create policies to deal with these potential issues. **Bottom Line:** Your organization is in control of this gift.