

MASON CAN UPDATE

NEWS FROM THE MASON COUNTY
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

JULY 2020 UPDATE

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LCAN Leadership Team Shout Out!
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Flyers for Sharing:

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Summer NEW Promise
Scholar Checklist

Connecting to College Funds

Michigan College Access Network awarded \$9300 in assistance for Mason County Juniors, Seniors and First-Year WSCC students to help with staying connected to the internet for college readiness & success. Mason CAN partnered with United Way & Mason County Family Link and the Mason County Community Foundation to be able to support students and their families in staying connected to the internet over the next year while Michigan deals with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds are also available to help students afford early SAT or retakes.

Read the attached press release for more information on how to access these funds. See page 2 on how to submit a COVID-19 Response Grant Funding Request.

Gearing up for Fall

Mason CAN has submitted a Planning Grant Proposal to Michigan College Access Network to support a year of getting back to basics in our effort in supporting post-secondary achievement. Local institutions, including Mason County Eastern Schools, West Shore ESD, West Shore Community College have supported this effort through providing match, and new partners, including the Ludington & Scottville Chamber and West Michigan Works are joining the Mason CAN Leadership Team to bolster our community-based effort. This fall, Mason CAN will begin making the plan to reach 60% post-secondary completion by 2030.

College Bound Michigan

DEADLINE to REGISTER: July 24th

A reminder for local high schools that if you'd like the free College-Bound Michigan Toolkit and support materials, the deadline for High Schools to register is July 24th. Learn more about the 60 by 30 movement, and the toolkit and register here:

<https://mcan.smapply.org/prog/CBMI20/>

THANK YOU to our partners at **Mason County Central High School**, and **Mason County Eastern High School**, who have already joined in this effort to reach 60 by 30!

MCAN High School Innovation Survey

2020 has been an unprecedented year, and MCAN's College Strategy Assistant for High School Innovation, Kelsea Combs, wants to hear directly from direct service providers in Michigan, school counselors, educators, teen leaders, about what your learning needs and interests are as you innovate during this season of change, with the goal of best supporting your students. Take this survey so that Mason County's voice can be heard!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1RPPpJGSgdxNk40ff9zFZQOe9fEeolwJvln6Q7StwxEes/edit?usp=drive_web

Leadership Team Shout Out!!

At the June Convening of Statewide LCANs, Coordinators were asked to share appreciation for a members of our team. I shared a special shout out, thank you, and kudos to Leadership Team members Andrea Large, the Executive Director of the Community Foundation for Mason County, Lynne Russell, the Executive Director for Mason County United Way, and one of our newest members, Brandy Henderson-Miller, the President and CEO of the Ludington & Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce. Large, Russell and Henderson-Miller have emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic as thought leaders for Collective Action in their efforts to pool resources. All three Leadership team members have worked collectively and individually over the past three months, bringing unprecedented amounts of grant opportunities for businesses and non-profits, and most importantly, keeping Mason County's schools, businesses, non-profits connected to each other during a time of closures and social distancing so that we can better support the communities that we serve. Thank you all for your efforts and committment to Mason County, Michigan!

MCAN COVID-19 Response Grant Due July 31st

The deadline for submitting a COVID-19 Response grant to MCAN is coming up on July 31st. If your school or organization has developed an innovative way during the pandemic to support students in their effort get to college and need a financial boost to help them achieve or access support, consider writing for this grant before July 31st.

\$2,500 for Michigan-based High Schools or up to \$10000 for Michigan community organizations: To submit an application, visit MIcollegeaccess.org/grants; If you need support with your request, contact jodym@ludington.org

Remember: COLLEGE IS any post-secondary education! COLLEGE IS necessary! COLLEGE IS for everyone! COLLEGE IS a public good!

Find helpful resources at MasonCountyCAN.org
Visit us! Like us! Follow us!
We're on Facebook & Instagram:
[@MasonCountyCAN](https://www.instagram.com/MasonCountyCAN)



June 17, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

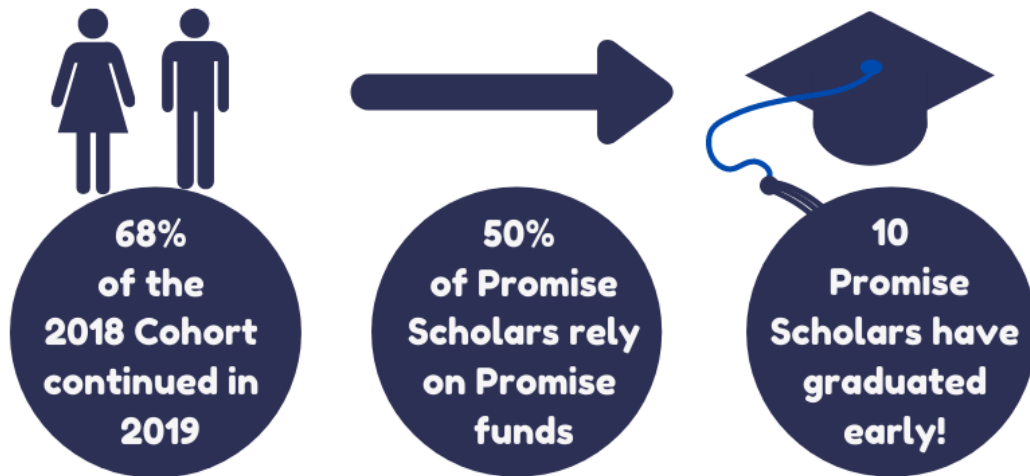
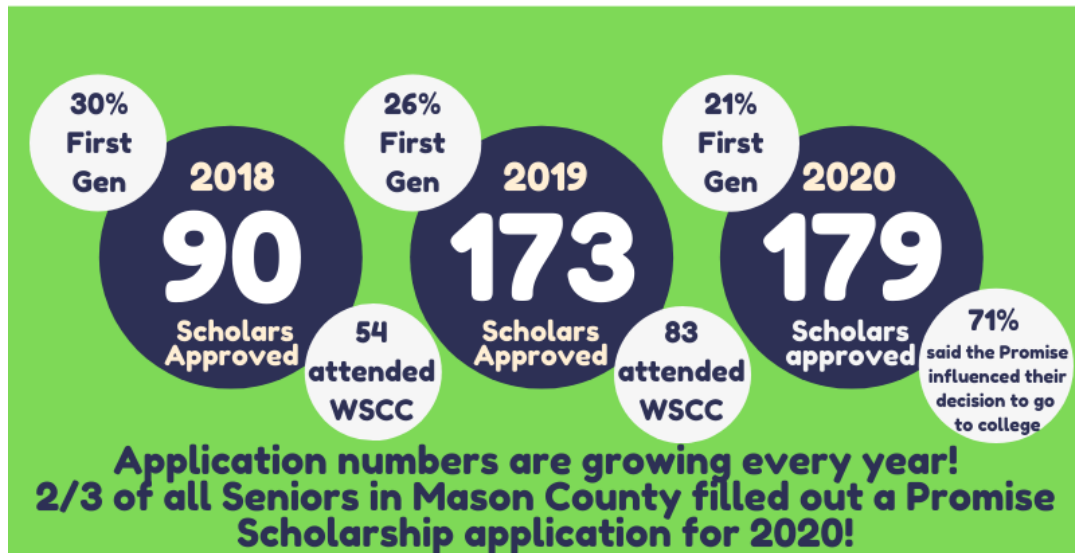
Connecting to College Grant Awarded to Mason CAN and United Way

Mason College Access Network has been awarded \$9300 as part of the Michigan College Access Network COVID-19 Response Grant program. This funding will help Mason County students stay connected online as they prepare for college or transition into their first year of college at West Shore Community College.

Mason County high school juniors and seniors and first-year students from Mason County who will start at WSCC in fall of 2020 are eligible to request assistance through Mason County Family Link on a first-come, first-served basis while funding lasts. The grant will offer \$50 a month in assistance for internet connectivity for qualified students who were impacted by the COVID-19-related closures. Students who need assistance can also be referred by high school or college staff to United Way's Mason County Family Link program. Mason County Family Link has Community Schools Coordinators who serve Ludington, Mason County Central, Mason County Eastern, G2S, WSESD, and WSCC. Family Link can help up to 160 Mason County students and their families with internet bill pay assistance, hot spots, or phone data cards. The intent of this assistance is to help students to take part in college-related activities that are now online due to the coronavirus pandemic, such as college orientation, SAT prep, AP courses, college admissions webinars, online courses, and web-based homework. The grant also has funding to assist up to 20 high school seniors and juniors with affording fees to take the SAT early, or to retake the SAT during the 2020-21 academic year. Retaking the SAT has been shown to improve test scores, but many students do not take advantage of this because of cost.

Michigan College Access Network, who provided this grant funding, believes that college means any kind of post-secondary education, that college is for everyone, and that college is both a necessity and a public good. Mason College Access Network is excited to work with our area school and community partners, including Mason County Family Link, United Way, and the Community Foundation for Mason County, to help Mason County achieve 60% college completion by 2030. To request support through this program, contact United Way Executive Director Lynne Russell, by emailing lynne@masoncountyuw.org or call 231-843-8593. For more information on Mason College Access Network, contact Jody Maloney at jodym@ludington.org, visit MasonCountyCAN.org, or call 231-239-8224.

MASON COUNTY PROMISE BY THE NUMBERS



\$335,000

AWARDED FOR SCHOLARS WHO USED THE PROMISE SINCE 2018! THIS MONEY STAYS LOCAL AT WSCC

\$1,871,625

ESTIMATED SAVINGS BY SCHOLARS WHO USED THE PROMISE RATHER THAN PAYING FOR THE AVERAGE TUITION AT A MICHIGAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY!

(BASED ON AVERAGE MICHIGAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY TUITION-COLLEGEALC.ORG)

2018: 3.17
2019: 3.0
2020: 3.3

Average GPA in High School by Cohort

3.2

Average GPA: reported by Promise Scholars at WSCC

Thoughts from Our WSCC Graduates

"I was planning on going to WSCC after high school already, the Promise Scholarship was like an added bonus. Going to WSCC, allowed me to save money by living at home AND I was still able to work at my two local part time jobs."

-Andrea Shoop, Associate of Science, 2020

"I explored different courses and experiences at WSCC, and learned from and grew in my relationships with my professors and peers"

-Jocelyn White, Associate of Arts, 2020

Promise Scholar College-Ready Checklist

- Complete Orientation & Register for 9 credits or more by August 21
- Financial Aid: FAFSA & TIP--WSCC as first choice; Complete FA documents or verification
- Logistics: Make a plan for a consistent place to live & transportation to class
- Work: Work with your job to eliminate class schedule conflicts & plan reasonable hours
- Classes: Check your Westshore email & Canvas for last minute updates
- Books: Make a plan buy books by no later than the end of the first week of class
- Academic Calendar: Class starts August 31; Read for drop and W deadlines, & breaks
- Campus Calendar: Check for events and make a plan to get involved
- Planner: Use a paper planner or phone to track your class schedule, assignment due dates & start dates & set a study schedule
- Syllabi: Read early and often to make sure you don't miss important details.
- Success: Use campus resources & opt for virtual success coaching through the Promise on Canvas!

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