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**SECTION:** State and Regional

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**HEADLINE:** College tuition promised to **Kalamazoo** Public Schools grads

**DATELINE:** **KALAMAZOO**, Mich.

**BODY:**

Scholarships to any public university in Michigan will be offered to all graduates of **Kalamazoo** Public Schools starting with the Class of 2006, district officials announced Thursday.

An anonymous group of benefactors is underwriting the scholarship program called the **Kalamazoo Promise**. It will cover 100 percent of tuition and mandatory fees for children who have been enrolled in **Kalamazoo** schools since kindergarten and whose parents live in the district. Partial scholarships will be available to students who enter after kindergarten.

The scholarships may also be used at community colleges, and can be used up to four years after the student graduates. The scholarships will be available to those entering the military after they have completed their service.

The **Kalamazoo** Community Foundation will administer the scholarships, which are guaranteed for the next 12 graduating classes, **Kalamazoo** radio station WFAT reported.

"Starting tomorrow, there's not a kid in our district who is not college material," school district spokesman Alex Lee told the **Kalamazoo** Gazette.

**Kalamazoo** Public Schools has 11,099 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12 in the west Michigan city of 77,000.

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On the Net:

**Kalamazoo** Public Schools, <http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/>