

Below are several questions that you may encounter when interacting with tnAchieves students at your meeting. During the activity time, mentors are expected to engage with students and answer questions. Feel empowered to jump into a student conversation leveraging the discussion prompts below as well. This is your time to show students first-hand how valuable a mentor can be!

If you encounter a question you don't know the answer to or is not covered below, connect with a member of the tnAchieves team for assistance.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the deadlines for TN Promise eligibility?**

- **April 15, 2024** - Complete your Mandatory TN Promise Meeting requirement!
- **May 15, 2024** - File the 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)!
- **Spring 2024** - Apply to College!
- **July 1, 2024** - Complete and submit eight hours of community service to tnAchieves!
- **Fall 2024** - Enroll as a full-time student at an eligible institution!

### **How can I make sure that I receive credit for attending this meeting?**

- Make sure you signed in via the link that was texted to you this morning, or scan the QR code to record your attendance. If you are unable to sign in via phone, find a tnAchieves staff member to record your attendance.

### **How do I find and submit community service and/or job shadowing?**

- It is your responsibility to find community service or job shadowing opportunities! tnAchieves has several resources to assist in completing this requirement. Visit the tnAchieves website for a list of opportunities in your community:

<https://tnachieves.org/community-service/opportunities-by-county/>

To submit your hours, visit the tnAchieves website here:

<https://tnachieves.org/community-service/submit-cs-hours/> It is your responsibility to submit your community service hours by the deadline! Failure to do so will result in a loss of scholarship eligibility.

### **I am graduating early! Can I still receive the TN Promise scholarship?**

- Yes! Make sure that before you leave today's meeting, you speak with a tnAchieves staff member to ensure you are up to date on your requirements and deadlines to receive TN Promise in the spring semester. You can find a list of early graduate requirements here:

<https://tnachieves.org/high-school-senior/early-graduate/>

### **Where do I go to get help filing my FAFSA? Will there be resources available to help me complete this?**

- Yes! While the FAFSA is not yet open, tnAchieves will update you via email and text message when it is available for completion. We will also share FAFSA resources and supports to assist in completing this mandatory requirement. Do not be afraid to ask for help filing your FAFSA. There are several supports available to ensure you complete this requirement on time!

**Where can I go to college using the TN Promise?**

- Community colleges, technical colleges (TCATs) and several four-year institutions that offer associate's degree programs are TN Promise eligible. A full list of eligible institutions is available at [tnAchieves.org/colleges](https://tnAchieves.org/colleges). tnAchieves is here to help regardless of where you plan to enroll! No matter where you plan to enroll, though, tnAchieves mentors can help you to navigate your journey. We are here to help you navigate life after high school and your post-secondary journey, regardless of where you choose to go!

**I am not sure what I want to major in or do as a career! Should I still go to college?**

- Yes! College is for everyone. Many students enter college not fully certain of what they want to do, part of college is discovering your interests and skills. Your college experience can help to shape your future both professionally and personally! Many colleges offer resources and programs designed to help you find your passion and career interests.

**I am thinking of taking a semester or year off before I go to college. Could I still receive the TN Promise scholarship?**

- No. All students must enroll in the fall semester immediately following high school graduation to maintain TN Promise eligibility. Failure to do so will result in a loss of scholarship eligibility.

**What are the benefits of going to college?**

- As mentioned in the meeting, you have much to gain by completing a college credential! Not only will you have more career opportunities, but you will also earn more money. Students with a degree earn more than \$10,000 each year than their peers who only have a high school credential! You will also gain a strong network of friends and professional support by completing a college credential.

**How do I request to work with a mentor and what are the benefits?**

- Mentors will help you navigate the college process and identify career opportunities! They will be there to assist as you navigate the transition from high school into college, regardless of what your questions may be they will be there to assist. Whether you plan to use TN Promise or not, a tnAchieves mentor can offer valuable support. tnAchieves will send you a text within a week of attending your mandatory meeting to confirm if you wish to work with a mentor. Simply reply YES and you will be paired with a volunteer from your community!

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**Conversation Starters**

- Where are you planning on going to school? Have you chosen a major yet?
- What is one thing about college that you are most excited about?
- What are you most nervous about in college?
- What is your top value on the list, and what makes it the most important to you?
- Which of the five career interests resonates most with you? Why?
- What is your dream job? Why?