

**Office of the Chancellor**

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To the families of the Class of 2020:

There's no doubt this has been an unusual year for everyone as we come to the end of the school year having missed many of the traditional celebrations for our high school seniors. However, students across the state of Tennessee have persevered valiantly, and I'd like to be among the first to **congratulate your 2020 graduate and you** on this milestone event in one's academic journey.

Tennessee's community and technical colleges understand many are uncertain about their next steps, so please allow me to provide some information about your local college that you may find helpful.

- **Your student is guaranteed acceptance**, whether or not he or she has previously applied, upon receipt of their traditional high school diploma.
- **Our campuses are experts in providing online education.** If you're not ready to be on-campus this fall, you can still earn credits. Our staff have years of experience delivering distance learning courses.
- We provide quality, one-to-one student advising and success coaching, and our Guided Pathways programs were **ranked the nation's best** by Columbia University.
- Tennessee Transfer Pathway programs **guarantee your credits transfer to participating universities** upon admission. There are 57 pathways available. Nine public universities and 22 privates participate.
- **Your student likely can attend tuition-free.** Financial assistance, including Tennessee Promise, covers tuition and mandatory fees for eligible high school graduates, allowing students and families to avoid unnecessary student debt. Many of our colleges have foundations that offer **textbook grants and other assistance** for those in need. It's important to note that currently, students **lose eligibility for TN Promise** if they don't enroll by the first fall semester following graduation.
- **Your graduate can be career-ready in a year.** Those wishing to enter the workforce quickly will find our community and technical colleges offer more than 60 programs that can lead to a good-paying career in 12 months or less.

Tennessee's 13 Community Colleges and 27 Colleges of Applied Technology are high-quality institutions of higher education, with campuses spanning the state from Memphis to Mountain City and a short drive from your home. We are here for you in your own communities. Explore our colleges at **tbr.edu/start**, where you can find information about colleges near you and their programs.

Again, congratulations! We look forward to the opportunity to provide quality education for your graduate.



Dr. Flora W. Tydings, Chancellor