



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 11, 2026

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TN Direct Admissions Expands Statewide for Second Year, Letters Arrive in September for Students Who Apply by August 17

TN Direct Admissions Letters Are Sent on a Rolling Basis; Class of 2027 Should Apply by August 17 to Receive Their Opportunities First

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) announced that [TN Direct Admissions](#) is underway for the Class of 2027, giving high school seniors more time and information to plan their path after high school. To receive personalized admission offers and estimated financial aid information through TN Direct Admissions, students must first complete the [TN Promise application](#).

Students who apply by **August 17** are expected to receive their first TN Direct Admissions letter in September. Additional letters will be mailed on a rolling basis throughout the fall, with the final TN Promise application deadline on November 2. The earlier students apply, the sooner they can explore their college opportunities.

"TN Direct Admissions is changing the way Tennessee students think about college by putting opportunities directly in front of them earlier in the process," said Dr. Steven Gentile, THEC Executive Director. "By completing the TN Promise application, students can take the first step toward receiving personalized college opportunities and financial information that can help them make confident decisions about their future."

Now in its second year, TN Direct Admissions provides eligible Tennessee high school seniors with automatic admission offers and estimated financial aid information from 63 participating colleges and universities. For the Class of 2027, **all eligible seniors in public, private, and home school** settings will receive automatic admission offers and estimated financial aid, expected to reach roughly **70,000 students statewide**.

TN Direct Admissions complements TN Promise, Tennessee's last-dollar scholarship program that covers tuition and mandatory fees at community colleges, Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), and other eligible institutions. Students must complete the TN Promise application to be eligible to receive a TN Direct Admissions letter.

What Students Need to Know:

- **Apply now:** Complete the TN Promise application through the THEC Student Portal at CollegeforTN.org to become eligible for TN Direct Admissions.
- **Receive opportunities sooner:** TN Direct Admissions letters will be sent on a rolling basis through the fall. First round of letters will go to students who apply by August 17.

- **Deadline:** Students must complete the TN Promise application by the final deadline of November 2, 2026.

The launch follows a first-year pilot study involving 57 Tennessee colleges and universities. During the pilot, more than 45,000 students in the Class of 2026 received personalized admission offers, with approximately half receiving early financial aid estimates.

By moving the TN Promise application timeline earlier, Tennessee students and families have more time to explore college options, compare opportunities, and make informed decisions before graduation.

Students can complete the TN Promise application through the THEC Student Portal. For more information about TN Direct Admissions, TN Promise, and other college access resources, visit CollegeForTN.org.

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About the Tennessee Higher Education Commission

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission was created in 1967 by the Tennessee General Assembly. As the state's higher education coordinating body, its mission is to build a strong higher education landscape that provides opportunities for all individuals to pursue high-quality education and high-value credentials.