



## Penn State & Raise Me Talking Points

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### **Raise Me is:**

- A platform that allows high school students to earn micro-scholarships for their achievements in academics, community service, leadership, and student clubs.
- An easy way for students to see how their efforts pay off as early as 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **The Raise Me + Penn State Partnership:**

- Allows students to earn scholarships that are directly applicable to Penn State without requiring additional applications or evaluations.
- Allows funds to be applied to students' financial aid awards when they enroll at Penn State.
- Encourages students to engage with Penn State early and see that Penn State recognizes and values their efforts.
- Reduces financial obstacles and debt upon graduation
- Learn more at [achieve.psu.edu/programs/raiseme/](https://achieve.psu.edu/programs/raiseme/)

### **School/Counselor Benefits:**

- Provides a simple way to help students access scholarship opportunities while in high school.
- Provides insights into how students are preparing for college.
- Strengthens the school's role in supporting college and financial planning.

### **Student Benefits:**

- Encourages students to stay engaged and motivated in school.
- Rewards holistic achievements that include grades but goes beyond academics.
- Empowers students to track their own progress and financial plan for their future.

### **Schools/Counselors Supporting Students:**

- Introduce Raise Me and Penn State starting as early as 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Invite students to the Raise Me platform, guide students in tracking achievements and earnings, and provide periodic reminders via the Raise Me platform.
- Connect students with Penn State representatives through school visits, university events, individual counseling sessions, and group workshops
- Celebrate milestones along the way

## **Penn State Fast Facts**

More than 275 majors ranging from the arts to agriculture to STEM. Penn Staters are prepared to excel in their careers upon graduation.

Penn State is Pennsylvania's largest public university with campuses across the Commonwealth offering diverse student life communities, multicultural student organizations, and hands-on learning opportunities.

Nearly half of all first-year students begin their Penn State journey at one campus and then transition to another to complete their degree. Penn Staters get to experience more, with the 2+2 Plan.

#4 in Best Colleges for First-Generation Students. More than 19,000 first-generation Penn Staters have the potential to succeed and shape their future. (Statistic via BestColleges.com)

#3 Best Public Schools for Internships in U.S. Penn Staters get real-world experience, with real-world employers. (Statistic via Princeton Review)