

# W.E. UPJOHN INSTITUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH

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## Upjohn Institute hosts national conversation on College Promise scholarship movement

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and local officials reflect on early outcomes, look ahead

KALAMAZOO, Mich.— Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder will join College Promise scholarship program leaders from across the country in a webinar Thursday, Oct. 26 to reflect on ways these programs are spurring innovation in college access and success. The webinar, “[Learning from a Decade of College Promise Scholarships](#),” is hosted by the Upjohn Institute and runs from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. EDT.

Inspired by the early success of the Kalamazoo Promise, which provides full-tuition scholarships to Michigan colleges and universities, communities around the country have increasingly embraced place-based scholarship, or Promise, programs. For 10 years, the Upjohn Institute has advanced the understanding of the Promise model and brought together researchers and practitioners at events such as the upcoming PromiseNet conference.

Gov. Snyder will kick off the discussion with an overview of how Promise programs can change the higher education picture for an entire state. Michigan is home to more promise programs than any other state, including the first and most generous program—the Kalamazoo Promise—and a program that serves one of the largest communities in the country, the Detroit Promise.

“Promise programs have helped make college more affordable and accessible for young people across Michigan,” Gov. Snyder said. “I’m proud to see Michigan hosting this important conversation because we have established a model in this arena and there is plenty that we can share about that. But we are also always looking for ways to learn more and improve what we’re doing. We can never be content or become complacent when it comes to our children’s futures.”

Promise program officials and funders from Michigan, Arkansas and California will offer perspective on their programs. In addition, the Upjohn Institute will offer a preview of its forthcoming nationwide database of promise programs, designed to support community leaders, researchers and others interested in place-based scholarships.

The webinar is free, but registration is required. Reserve your space at <http://bit.ly/promisewebinar>.

The [PromiseNet 2017](#) conference Nov. 6-7 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, brings together researchers and community stakeholders to share best practices around Promise scholarship programs.

The W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization devoted to finding and promoting solutions to employment-related problems. The views expressed in the webinar are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the W.E. Upjohn Institute. Visit us at [www.upjohn.org](http://www.upjohn.org).