



## **NEWS from Defiance College**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **Defiance College announces 1850 Promise**

DEFIANCE, Ohio – Defiance College announces its newest program, the *1850 Promise*, which expands on its initiative to make college affordable for all. The *1850 Promise* is specifically designed for eligible area high school students to earn a debt-free bachelor's degree. The program is an addition to the ***DEFine Your Future*** program the college announced last October. DC is recruiting now for the *1850 Promise* program that will start in the 2025-26 academic year. Students eligible for the program are those who have earned a cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 or higher, and qualify for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) through the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA). Other requirements for the program include maintaining commuter status and permanent residence in one of seven counties: Defiance, Henry, Fulton, Putnam, Paulding, VanWert, and Williams.

"We believe that a high-quality education should be within reach for all students," expressed Dr. Richanne C. Mankey, President of Defiance College. "In 2025, Defiance College will celebrate its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we want to start our next 175 years by showing our commitment for continued investment in the community by serving as your Northwest Ohio hometown college through the *1850 Promise* program. The ***DEFine Your Future*** program announced last fall includes a loan repayment assistance plan called the Defiance Advantage, as well as significantly reduced tuition which make DC more inviting."

The cost of higher education has increased tremendously over the last three decades, to a point that a college degree sometimes seems out of reach for many who aspire to earn one. Defiance College understands that. In fact, 100 percent of Defiance College undergraduate students receive institutional financial assistance in order to make the cost of attendance even more affordable.

"Prospective students and their families are often hesitant to consider Defiance College, even when they live in the local community. We want to make a high-quality college education possible for everyone, especially those in our own backyard," stated Dr. Jeremy Taylor, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Defiance College. "We're committed to providing an excellent college experience, regardless of a student's background or circumstance, and the *1850 Promise* will help us continue that legacy in our community."

Chartered in 1850, Defiance College is an independent, liberal arts-based institution in Northwest Ohio, offering more than 40 undergraduate programs of study as well as graduate programs in education and business. Defiance College has received national recognition for its educational experience of service and engagement, enhanced by an award winning and unique career readiness program called *Jacket Journey* to help students learn career skills in and out of the classroom. The college mission has four pillars: To Know, To Understand, To Lead, and To Serve.