

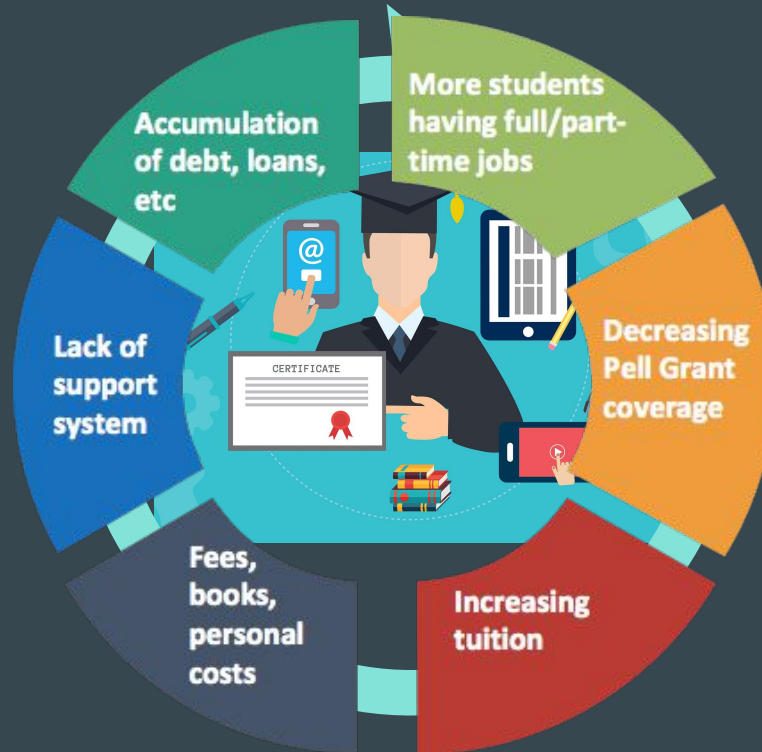
# *Atlanta Promise*

**Making Technical College More Accessible to Atlantans**



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# Background: Increasing Unaffordability of Community Colleges



# Role of Tuition Promise Programs



**Last-Dollar-Plus Funding**

**Last-Dollar Funding**

**First-Dollar Funding**

# Atlanta's Current Technical College Landscape:

## A Spotlight on Atlanta Technical College

### Tuition Cost

Tuition Rate:  
\$100/credit  
hour

Tuition and  
Fees: \$2,820

### Demographics

4,099  
students

66% female

95%  
minorities

### Financial Aid

91% receive  
Financial Aid

>75% receive  
Pell Grants



# Greatest Gaps in Affordable Tuition for ATC

<i>True Cost of Attendance at Atlanta Technical College 2017-2018 Academic Year</i>	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Tuition	\$2,136
Fees	\$680
Room and Board	\$4,625
Books and Supplies	\$1,250
Other Miscellaneous Living Expenses	\$2,000
<b>Total tuition and living expense budget for in-state Georgia residents</b>	<b>\$10,691</b>

Table 3

# A Tale of Four Cities: Exemplar “Promise” Programs

## Boston, Detroit, Milwaukee, and Seattle



# Boston, Massachusetts

**Program:** Tuition-Free Community College Plan (TFCCP)

**Participating higher education institutions:** 4 technical colleges

**Covers:** tuition and fees for up to three years

**Eligibility:** New high school and GED graduates; Pell Grant

**Funding Mechanism:** Neighborhood Jobs Trust (impact fees)

# Detroit, Michigan

**Program:** Detroit Promise Program

**Participating higher education institutions:** 6 community colleges

**Covers:** tuition for up to two years (full-time)

**Eligibility:** new high school and GED graduates; Pell Grant

**Funding Mechanism:** tax dollars and Detroit Promise Zone fund

Expanded to include 4-year university attainment



# Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Program:** New Graduates and Adults Promise Programs

**Partner institution:** Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)

**Covers:** tuition and fees up to 75 credit hours' worth

**Eligibility:** new high school and GED graduates; 24+; Pell Grant

**Funding Mechanism:** MATC Foundation

# Seattle, Washington

**Program:** Seattle Promise

**Partner institutions:** North, Central, and South Seattle Colleges

**Covers:** Tuition after all other aid is applied. Lasts through 90 credit hours or 24 months, whichever comes first

**Eligibility:** New graduates from Seattle-area high schools

**Funding Mechanism:** temporary education levy (7 years), existing financial aid mechanisms with participating colleges, portion of Sweetened Beverage Tax revenue

# Contributing Factors to Other Promise Programs' Impact

Additional students supports specifically in the form of dedicated college counselors.

Help students transition into college-level coursework, develop time management skills, and provide career guidance.

Pathways Programs that track students academics, matriculation, and retention.

# Recommendations for *Atlanta Promise*

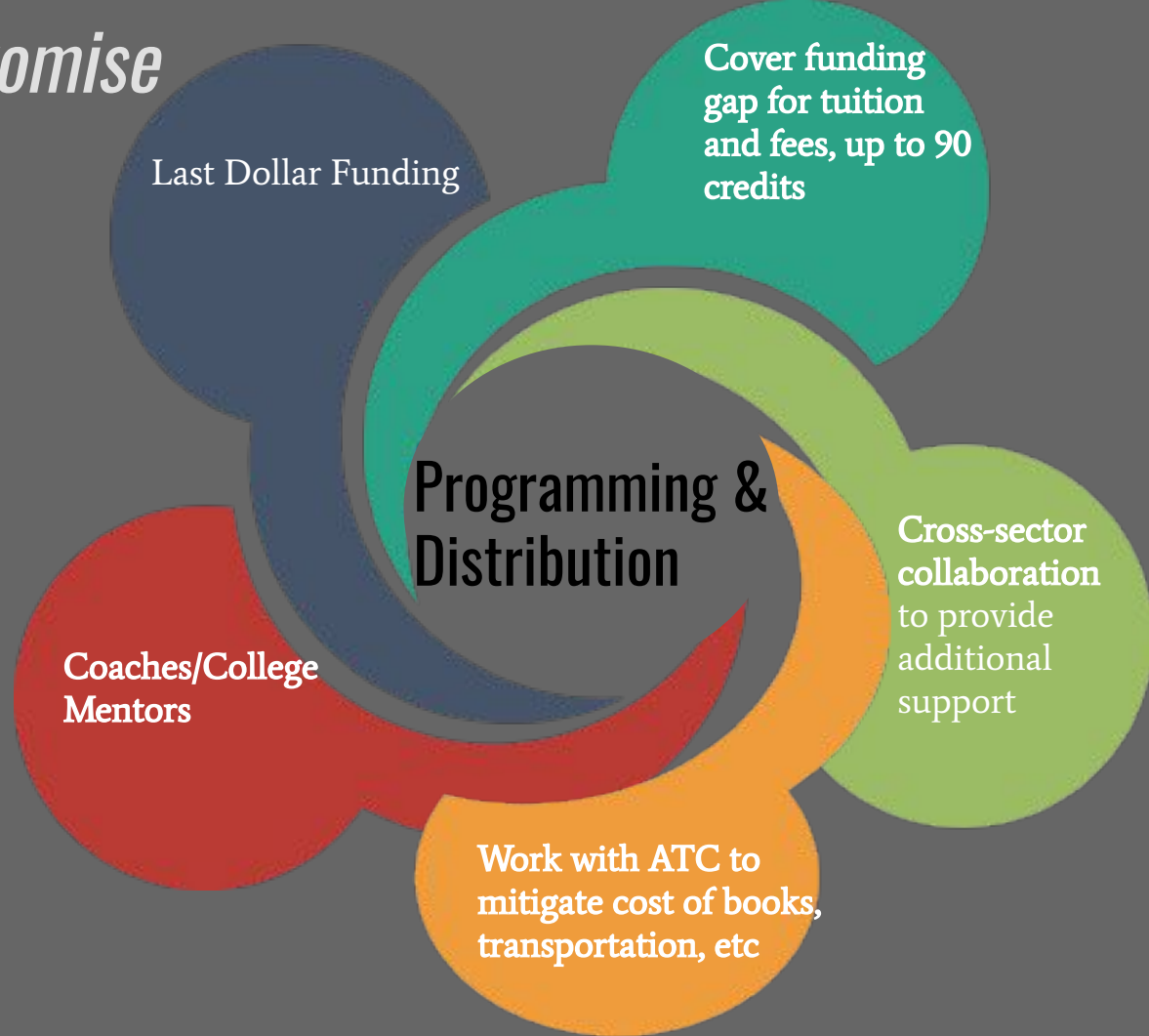
- Eligibility
- Funding Model and Programming
- Anticipated Costs
- Funding Strategies



## Eligibility for the Atlanta Promise

- ☐ Meet ATC's enrollment requirements
  - ☐ Proof of City of Atlanta residency
  - ☐ Have not previously completed an associate or bachelor's degree
  - ☐ Must submit a FAFSA®  
(non-citizens apply for a waiver)
  - ☐ Household income of no greater than 200% of the federal poverty line
- 
- ☐ Meet with their "Promise Coach"
  - ☐ Minimum of 6 credits/semester
  - ☐ Maintain minimum of 2.0 GPA

# *Atlanta Promise*

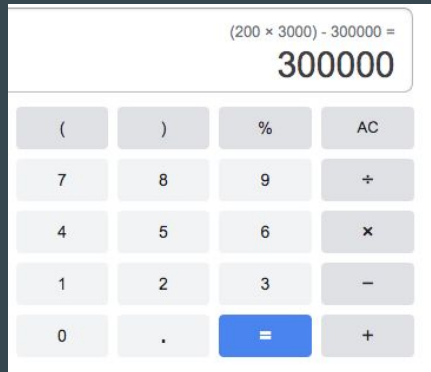


# Projected Costs

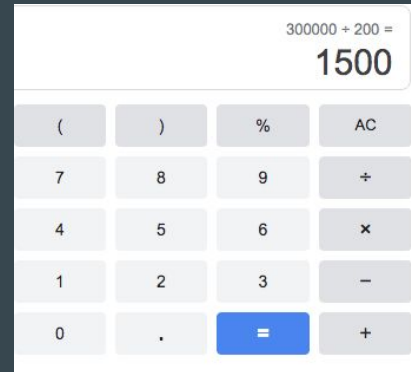
**Formula 1:** [(Number of Students Eligible for Atlanta Promise) x (Average Tuition and Fee Cost per Student)] - (Total Amount that Eligible Students Received from Federal, State, and Other Financial Aid) = Total Projected Cost of Atlanta Promise

**Formula 2:** Total Projected Cost of Atlanta Promise After Other Financial Aid is Applied / Number of Students Eligible for Atlanta Promise = Cost per Student

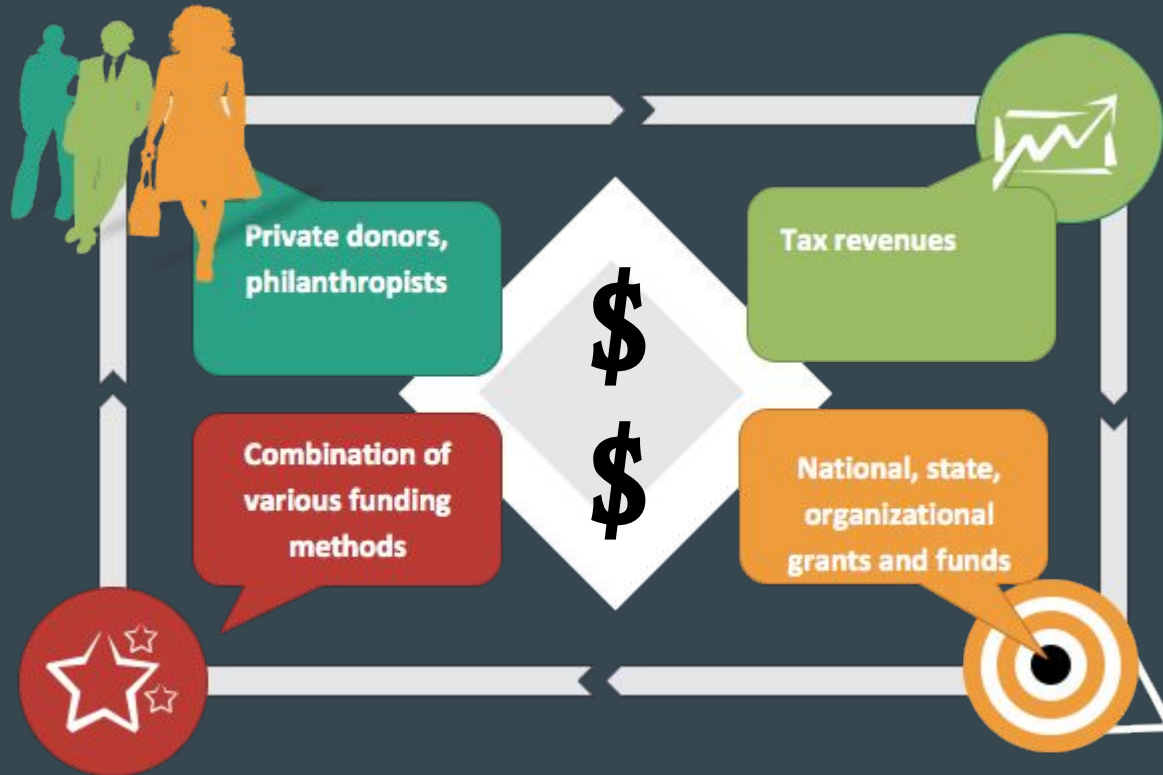
1)



2)



# Funding Strategies





# Challenges/ Limitations

Factors outside of the City of Atlanta's control:

- Changes in technical school pricing as a result of statewide policy and/or administrative changes
- Population shifts into the City among people seeking to access the Atlanta Promise program
- Extenuating circumstances at the individual level that could impact people's ability to attend Atlanta Technical College

# Long-Term Impact

- Variety of Positive Outcomes



- Affordability of higher education
- Skilled workforce
- Business climate in Atlanta
- Tax revenue
- Upward mobility



- Debt burden on students/families
- Crime
- Reliance upon social welfare programs

- Long-term Investment

# Conclusion



- Atlanta has a great opportunity to introduce a Promise Program
- Multitude of benefits, above and beyond educational attainment
- Hurdles are surmountable, especially with a future-oriented focus

**Q&A**