



Media Contact: Leslee Wright
Email:lwright@bentonvillek12.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bentonville Schools & Pitt State Announce Scholarship Program
Ten Ignite Professional Studies Students to Receive Full Tuition

Pitt State Partnership at a Glance

- Pittsburg State University will award 10 Ignite Professional Studies students full academic scholarships as part of a partnership with Bentonville Schools.
- Recipients will commit to studies within the Crossland College of Technology at Pittsburg State University.
- Students enrolled in the college can pursue a career path in construction, engineering and digital media.

Bentonville, Ark.—November 12, 2025—Pittsburg State University will award 10 Ignite Professional Studies students with a full academic scholarship as part of a partnership with Bentonville Schools.

Recipients will commit to enrolling at the Crossland College of Technology at Pitt State.

“This gift is going to change the trajectory of 10 students’ lives annually in the best way possible,” said Jessica Imel, Director of the Ignite Professional Studies Program.

“Our students are laser-focused. These students will go to Pitt State and receive a stellar education and hopefully return to NWA to positively impact the economic landscape here at home,” Imel added.

The Crossland College of Technology offers students the opportunity to pursue an advanced degree in construction, engineering and digital media.

Dr. Karl Stumo, Vice President of Student Life & Enrollment, shared that Pitt State ensures students gain relevant professional experience through a second-to-none, hands-on learning environment.

“These 10 students will receive a world-class education that will prepare them to work in their chosen fields and immediately make an impact,” said Dr. Stumo. “We look forward to this partnership in the years to come.”

Ignite students can begin the application process immediately.

About Bentonville Schools

Established in 1841, Bentonville Schools is the premier public school system in Arkansas, serving more than 19,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Twenty-four schools, spanning more than 143 miles across Northwest Arkansas, call the district home. Bentonville Schools is critically acclaimed for its academics, arts and athletics and is committed to excellence through innovative, inspiring learning experiences. For more information, visit **bentonvillek12.org**

About Pittsburg State University

Founded in 1903, Pittsburg State University offers 300 residential and online undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificates. Academic programs often bring home national honors. The university has earned institutional accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission and two elite classifications from the Carnegie Foundation. Visit **pittstate.edu** to learn more.

