



Thank you for supporting the Scholars of Promise Program. In 2020, there are over 300 students working towards a new future. We asked them how this support is impacting their lives.

*Here are just a few of their responses:*

**Arley**  
Associate Nursing Degree

I was born and raised in Madison and for most of my young life I used to go every summer to visit family in Mexico. As an only child in a single-parent household made me learn how to depend on myself and take advantage of the best opportunity. Before and after graduating high school I've worked as a CNA, but since on the path to achieving my nursing license, I've decided to try out a different type of employment. Currently I'm working as a Lead Barista at the East Towne Mall and it's definitely a nice change that I had been looking for in a while.

Scholars of Promise has a huge impacts, it won't only make me work harder to earn a good grade, but also it brings a great relief that I don't have to go into debt just for the opportunity to grow my education. Long-term, it will allow me to get even more closer to my goal of becoming a Nurse Practitioner. Success has many meaning for many people –but for me– success is been financially stable.

**Jheison**  
Liberal Arts Transfer STEM

I am a student-athlete at Madison College with the aspiration of earning a degree in computer science or business. I wish to transfer to a 4-year university after my time at Madison College is done to pursue said degree. I am originally from Guanajuato, Mexico.

This scholarship has a tremendous impact on me and my family. Because of this scholarship, I am able to continue my education without having to work countless hours to pay off tuition and put less stress on my family who lacks the financial resources to help me out throughout my college journey. Without this scholarship, I doubt that I would have been able to pursue a 4-year degree. I would like to thank you for this opportunity you have given me. I also would like to let you know that someday once I am financially stable will pay-it-forward whether it's to this program or others alike so that someone like me will be able to achieve their educational goals.

**Nicoll**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

This scholarship is very significant for me because I am a first generation student and my family is proud that I am pursuing my dreams but I am also being a role model for my little sister who is in high school. I want to show her that if we work hard and have discipline we can achieve our goals. I want to say thank you! Thank you for believing in our generation and giving many students the opportunity to succeed not only in college but in their personal lives.

**Anna**  
Associate Nursing Degree

I am a determined, joyful person who's passionate about education. Coming from a single low income household, the opportunity to have assistance in tuition is amazing. I plan to take my education as far as I can in my career. I'm someone who believes knowledge is something amazing and can teach you something about yourself and this world. Thank you for your assistance in my education this gift is truly something amazing. You are helping shape people's futures in the best way.

**Alexander**  
Machine Tool Technics

I'm 20 years old. I come from a lower middle class family that didn't have as much money growing up as my friends did. My parents both worked full time jobs, but it never was quite enough for us to live comfortably. When I was getting close to graduating high school I had almost no faith in attending any college, but my high school guidance counselor told me about the Scholars of Promise program here at MATC. I decided to attend here in a Machine tool field, because I was very good at machining in my high school class and I enjoy it a lot. I also already have a job in the field in my home town.

Once I graduate I could continue at my current job or any other machine shop in the Midwest. However my hope is that one day I could afford to come back to school and become an engineer, designing and programming machine to make the parts for big name companies. Thank you for your generosity. You truly have no idea how much this has impacted my life.

**Amy**  
Nursing Program and  
Medical Assistant

One of my biggest goals is to make my parents proud. I know my parents want to see me happy, achieving my dreams, and becoming successful. My parents migrated from Mexico to give their future better life, and more opportunities. Going to college is just one of those opportunities. This scholarship helps me pay for tuition for college, and I am very thankful. I can honestly see myself in a couple years, graduating from Madison College as a Medical Assistant, and I cannot wait to see the look in my parents when I walk on yet another stage.

Education is a privilege, thank you for making my dreams, and hopes possible. The financial assistance you provided will be of great help of paying my educational expenses. I promise I will work very hard, and eventually, help others.

**Justin**  
Engineering Mechanics

Engineering has always been one of the most intriguing concepts to me and throughout my education, I have decided to pursue a Bachelor's in Engineering Mechanics from UW Madison as well as eventually going for a Masters in Aerospace Engineering at Purdue. I have two younger sisters, nine & twelve, who have been major influences in my decisions and procured my desire to set an example.

This scholarship has been one of the most defining factors of my college education. If it were not for SoP I would have struggled far greater in not only achieving my degree but simply understanding my courses. The scholarship not only gave me the opportunity to excel in my courses but also allowed me to put my full focus into my education without the need to worry about tuition in addition to bills. The foundation of my engineering career has been set strong thanks to Madison College and the Scholars of Promise program.

**Annabelle**  
Associate Nursing Degree

I grew up with a lot of financial struggle my whole life and without being in the Scholars of Promise program there is no way that I would be able to go to school and pursue my dream of being a Nurse. This opportunity that I have been gifted means so much to me and my family. My goal is to someday be able to give to others and help people in the way that I have been blessed enough to receive. Thank you so much!

The gift of giving is a true blessing and I hope that you are proud of what you are doing and continue to do so! This Scholars of Promise program has changed many lives like mine and I am now going to use this gift to become a Nurse someday and hopefully help others just like you have with my financial struggle and education!

**Akpene**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

I'm originally from West Africa and I've been here for about almost seven years now. I love singing, dancing and drawing, but my career goal is to transfer to UW Madison for my bachelor's and master's degrees. However, because those two degrees won't give me my license as a clinical psychologist, I'm planning on obtaining my doctorate. I haven't decided which kind but either the Ph. D. a research degree or Psy. D. clinical degree. I've choosing to work in this field because I love being around people and finding out who they are from my observation.

This scholarship will help me get to where I want to be. Without it, there is no way for me to obtain my education. I'm so grateful for it.

**Antilica**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

I am the youngest daughter in a Hmong family of seven. Although I'm the youngest I have big dreams for my future. I want to become a family/marriage lawyer. It's a lot of schooling but I am not discouraged. I'm passionate about helping people, especially if it allows me to stand up for them. I never really had anyone who was advocating for me, so I want to be that person for someone else. On my free time I like to play my guitar and sing. Music and art are my hobbies that I love to pick up when I'm not busy with school or work.

I want to thank you for your time, and everything you do to help support me and the Scholars of Promise program. I'm the last one in my family to go to college and my parents were worried that I wouldn't make it because 2 of my brothers dropped out and had an enormous amount of debt. I'm glad that I can reassure my parents and tell them they don't need to worry about my school tuition. I truly appreciate all you are doing for me and for the Scholars of Promise program.

**Karla**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

My name is Karla Avalos, I am 19 years old, I'm the first in my family to finish high school and attend college. I want to become either a pediatric nurse or neonatal nurse. I am a CNA at Oakwood and I love being around others and live by the rule treat others how you want to be treated.

This scholarship is the base foundation of my career. With this I'll be able to complete my educational goals, by becoming what I want to be, and making my parents proud.

I want to take this time to say thank you for all your support and donations that you have made. Not only does it a great help, but it's a blessing to have people like you that reach out to give to others to make their dreams come true and become successful.

**Tania**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

I am a freshman in college; I am currently enrolled in the Liberal Arts Transfer Program at Madison College. The major I aspire to fulfill is Structural Civil Engineering. I decided to pursue a career in STEM due to my passion for mathematics as well as my passion for virtual building design. I am a proud first-generation Latina scholar, with that being said I have strong perseverance and passion for my dreams. On top of my regular school work, I also completed a seal of biliteracy, in Spanish, as well as, a part-time job and completing 100+ hours of volunteering. Having to stay on top of all my responsibilities was a challenge I managed to stay organized and successfully complete high school.

Dreaming about going to college when I was younger has been one of the biggest goals that were instilled in my education when growing up. However, when the time to apply for college was around the corner my family deteriorated the dreams they once helped me build, saying that I had no chance in completing college because I couldn't afford it. Therefore, after lots of research, I ran into Scholars of Promise giving me back hope and offering me an opportunity to fulfill my dreams. This scholarship has not only made an instant change in my life but it also has given me the opportunity to believe in myself once more and given me the capacity and confidence to accomplish my goals.

I thank you as a donor. This scholarship has reestablished the perseverance in myself and given me a chance to show the world my real potential and capacity.

**Jimena**  
Liberal Arts Transfer

I am a first-generation student and I come from an immigrant family. My parents didn't get to graduate high school and I am happy that I am fortunate enough to make further than that, and be in college. I think I am really creative, compassionate, self-motivated, and a hard worker.

This scholarship has a great amount of impact on my future goals and dreams. All through my k-12 schooling, I had serious doubts about being able to go to college. Those doubts were stimulated by the financial strains that my family has gone through. When my parents found out about the Scholars of Promise scholarship they were beyond excited and grateful and so was I. If I am being honest, I truly believe I would not be in college (at least not full-time), if it weren't for your generosity.

I would like to recognize and thank you for your generosity and commitment to helping students, such as myself, reach their educational goals.

# Scholars of Promise: Program Impact

*Giving hope to students who feel that college is out of their reach due to financial barriers*

The Madison College Scholars of Promise program is an initiative giving hope to students who feel that college is out of their reach due to financial barriers.

The program's purpose is to increase access to higher education for members of our district, specifically promising low-income students in achieving their dream of attending college by providing financial aid and scholarships, for which they are eligible, to cover the cost of tuition.

*"Education is a privilege, thank you for making my dreams and hopes possible."*

## Program benefits include:

- **Tuition Assistance:** The program covers tuition and fee costs that grants and scholarships do not for up to six consecutive semesters at Madison College.
- **Mentorship:** Students work with a mentor their first year and become a mentor their second year.
- **Financial Aid Application Assistance:** Dedicated support is offered through focused application completion workshops.
- **Academic Support:** Academic advising and career counseling focused on SoP students is offered.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** A regular newsletter helps students complete the required eight hours of service per term.
- **Promise to Promise:** Direct college transfer opportunities with full tuition paid for up to four consecutive semesters with UW-Madison's Scholars of Promise program.

*"If I am being honest, I truly believe I would not be in college if it weren't for your generosity."*

## Eligibility and program requirements:

- Demonstrate financial need.
- Begin classes within nine months of high school graduation.
- Maintain continuous full-time enrollment status (12 credits or more) each semester, not including summers.
- Achieve a 2.0 (or higher) semester GPA each term.
- Volunteer eight hours each semester, attend two life-skills workshops each semester, meet once per term with the Scholars of Promise advisor and mentor an incoming Scholars of Promise student during the second year.
- Note, students do not have to be FAFSA Eligible or a U.S. Citizen to participate in this program.

