

**From:** [Stacy LeNorman](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Scholarship program  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:45:01 PM

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Hello,

We were among the families that received the scholarship for our daughter when it first came out. When she was a junior in High School we read that it was about to be offered. We found the program the exact incentive to keep her motivated as well as for us to be able to afford her to attend UAA. Once she successfully qualified, there was no question she was planning on going onto college.

She is a first generation graduate – specifically because of the program allowing our family to afford it. Not only did we find the program easy to re-qualify for each year, but the payments went smoothly & directly to UAA.

Erika, after 9 semesters, earned her degree in Art with a minor in History. As the program justifiably only covered 8 semesters, the 9th semester out-of-pocket costs were shockingly high. We were able to afford that one semester by making drastic cuts in other areas of our budget. Because she has a college degree, she is more qualified than other job applicants, and is now employed as a preschool teacher. Without the funding, none of this would be possible – and her future job opportunities bleak.

It's sad to think future participants won't be able to take advantage of this valuable program. Our 'vote' is to keep the program in place. If any cuts would be required to the program, perhaps the monetary amount could be reduced – not completely erased to zero.

If there is a list being compiled of public opinion, we would be happy to be added to the "keep it" side.

Thank you for considering our voice.

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