

FALL 2020

*Earl E. and Teresa L. Dowling Scholarship Fund
for Student Success*

RECIPIENT

Christina Rupp

CITY: Glendale Heights, IL

DEGREE PROGRAM: Early Child Education & Care



My name is Christina Rupp, I am writing in regards to my scholarship. I have gone through many hardships in my life. I grew up in Glendale Heights IL, and my life has not been perfect. While I grew up a healthy happy child, I had very little and my parents provided me with toys and happiness. My mother and father both work their tails off to help me accomplish my goals.

Recently my mother has become unemployed, not due to COVID-19 and my father is working directly with hospitals which is a little tough for him. My father does not make enough money on his own to aid my college fund. During my high school years, I worked two jobs and rarely had time for friends and family. Both my jobs were directed in retail and I have learned many different social skills thanks to them. I was able to maintain good grades in my AP classes in high school as I worked my two jobs.

During my early years of high school, I was in a toxic friendship that ultimately did not end very well. My friendship was filled with manipulation, I was being subtly controlled and needed to escape. It was a very difficult time for me as I was still trying to find my identity and fit in with my friends. As I grew older I broke free of my toxic friendship and have formed strong bonds with many people. I Love and care about them very much and appreciate everything they've done for me. My overall goal is to become a second-grade teacher and give back to the community that raised me. I love children and helping them learn while also having a fun time is my goal. I have recently started paying for my college tuition and it has been a difficult task.

With the recent COVID-19 situation I've been working a lot more as I am considered an essential worker. I have put my health at risk to continue to pay for my college tuition. This scholarship is greatly appreciated, as it will help pay for nearly an entire semester, and will allow me to put more money into my savings account for later. This entire situation that arose has not set my plan back and I still plan on graduating from community college next year and continuing my education at National Lewis University. I learned I wanted to work with children because I enjoy being around children. I have been told I will make a great teacher due to my kindness and patience I have with people. Soon I plan on working in a child-care facility, to gain experience in that field. I also want to learn American sign language to aid me in assisting children with disabilities. I eventually plan on becoming certified to work with special needs children, as I have been told I will be great at that as well.