



SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE

Case for Support

149%
↑
1990

Full-time, dependent undergraduate students in the lowest family-income quartile averaged \$9,143 in **unmet financial need** in 2016, **up 149% from 1990.**



As of 2019, total outstanding **student loan debt** in the United States exceeded **\$1.6 trillion.**



Time spent working reduces time available for educational activities. Research has shown that working **more than 20 hours per week** is associated with **lower grades and retention rates.**

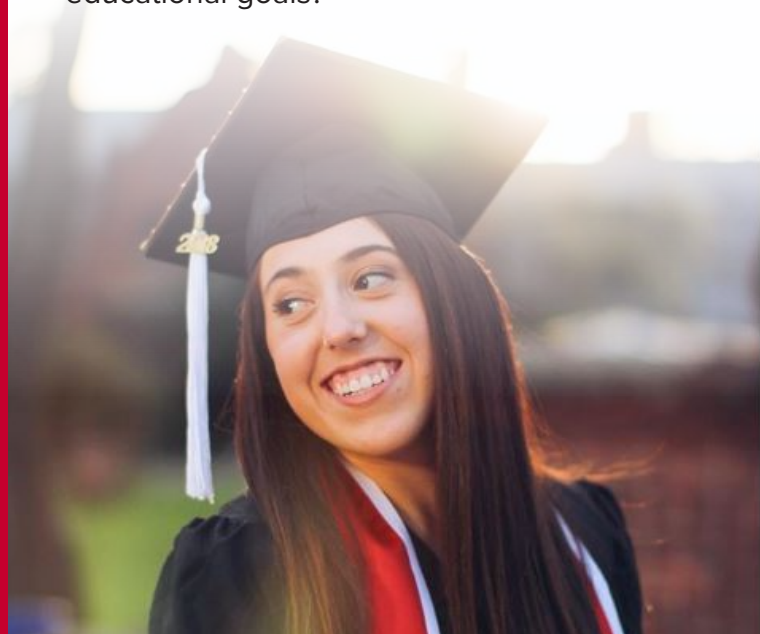


The **U.S. Department of Education** reports that, in 2017, **43% of all full-time undergraduate students & 81% of part-time students** were employed while enrolled.

Our Why

Our mission is to invest in our sisters and inspire a lifetime of giving to innovative leadership as well as educational and philanthropic causes. Education is key to ensure that our sisters feel empowered to make and exceed bold goals. However, **since 1984 the cost of tuition has more than doubled**, even when adjusting for inflation. This puts our sisters' education at risk.

On average, undergraduate students' **unmet financial need is up 149%**, and **student loan debt exceeds \$1.6 trillion**. According to the Fraternity, nearly 300 women resigned from Alpha Omicron Pi due to financial hardship from August 2021 – March 2022. Sisters are having to choose between AOIT and paying for school. What if we could eliminate that choice by financially supporting their educational goals?



¹ The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, Council for Opportunity in Education, and Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy of the University of Pennsylvania

² Board of Governors of the U.S. Federal Reserve System

³ American Association of University Professors

⁴ National Center for Education Statistics



Tori Starks

Nu Beta, University of Mississippi
Helen Haller Scholarship Recipient

“This scholarship means starting my studies in medicine feeling more financially confident while also having the constant reminder that there is a multitude of inspiring women across the country cheering me on in my career aspirations. I am forever thankful for this community of sisters I have been privileged to be a part of in college and am grateful to be able to continue to build relationships through this sisterhood of support, encouragement, and inspiration throughout my lifetime.”

Our AOII Foundation Impact

The Foundation has given nearly
\$3.4 million in scholarships
since 1993.

In 2022-2023,
77% of all women
who applied for scholarships received one.

Barb Bruning

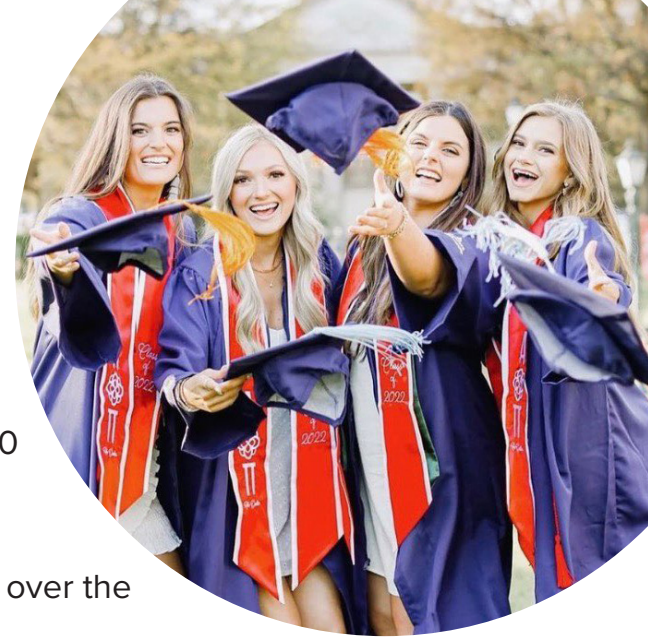
Theta Psi, University of Toledo
Barbara Hiss Bruning Scholarship Fund

“Higher education today is very expensive. It is my pleasure to be able to support my AOII sisters financially. It’s one way I can demonstrate my gratitude to the Fraternity for all of the opportunities I’ve had for leadership training and experiences that helped shape my future, even to this day. I want to contribute to future generations so that they have the support they need to learn and be successful.”



Steps to Launch a Named Scholarship

- 1 **Contact your staff partner.**
- 2 **Brainstorm potential criteria and eligibility.**
- 3 **Decide how your scholarship will be funded:**
 - Option 1: Make a gift/donation of at least \$25,000 to fully endow your scholarship.*
 - Option 2: Make an initial contribution of at least \$5,000 and agree to contribute additional funds over the next five years, for a minimum of \$25,000.*



**Initial contributions must be made by October 1 of each year in order to award a scholarship the following spring. If fund is awarded out immediately and is not fully endowed, it's suggested to contribute a minimum of \$30,000.*

- 4 **Finalize your commitment by signing a Scholarship Gift Agreement that has been customized to fulfill the intent of your scholarship.**
- 5 **Let the scholarship fundraising begin!**

Benefits of Having a Named Scholarship

- You have the flexibility to support sisters who are important to you, like members of your chapter and/or those studying an impactful area.
- The AOII Foundation staff manages all administrative processes for you, including investment, recipient selection, marketing, and publicity.
- Your scholarship will be endowed, allowing your gift to live on in perpetuity. Gifts to your scholarship are invested to provide income to be awarded as you have directed.

*We make having a lasting impact on **AOII** sisters easy!*