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NOBLE NETWORK EXPANDS COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

New partnerships with 14 colleges will provide financial support for students

CHICAGO – Today, the [Noble Network of Charter Schools](#) announced partnerships to provide greater access to higher education opportunities for its graduates. Starting this fall, 14 colleges across the country, including five in Illinois, have agreed to partner with Noble to close the financial aid gap for undocumented Noble students in the [Pritzker Access Scholarship](#) program.

“We are committed to supporting Noble students even after they graduate high school,” said Michael Milkie, superintendent and CEO of the Noble Network of Charter Schools. “Undocumented students across the country often miss out on a college education because of their ineligibility for financial aid. We are grateful to our college partners for providing the opportunities for these students.”

The agreement will be available to Noble seniors who have qualified for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (a temporary federal relief from deportation) and are accepted to one of the four-year colleges in the agreement. The institutions of higher education will provide undocumented students who received the Pritzker Access Scholarship with sufficient annual financial support to close the need for direct costs to the colleges.

“We have been working with the Noble schools for a while and have been so pleased with the contributions their graduates make on our campus,” said Grant Cornwell, president of [The College of Wooster](#) in Ohio. “This three-way partnership allows more of these bright, motivated and well-prepared DACA students to enroll here at Wooster, as well as the other partner colleges, and is truly a cause for celebration. This partnership can and should be a model for the nation.”

Other institutions in the partnership include:

- [Lafayette College](#) (Easton, Pa.)
- [Carleton College](#) (Northfield, Minn.)
- [Dominican University](#) (River Forest, Ill.)
- [Franklin & Marshall College](#) (Lancaster, Pa.)
- [Holy Cross College](#) (Notre Dame, Ind.)
- [Illinois College](#) (Jacksonville, Ill.)
- [Luther College](#) (Decorah, Iowa)
- [Lycoming College](#) (Williamsport, Pa.)



- [Monmouth College](#) (Monmouth, Ill.)
- [North Park University](#) (Chicago, Ill.)
- [Ripon College](#) (Ripon, Wis.)
- [Wabash College](#) (Crawfordsville, Ind.)
- [Western Illinois University](#) (Macomb, Ill.)

In addition to the financial support, the students will also be eligible to be a part of Noble's mentoring efforts to help alumni through college. With ongoing counseling, tutoring and early intervention through mentor-mentee relationships, Noble is actively building a network of alumni that supports one another through college to achieve more success in life.

For [UIC College Prep](#) senior Arely, the scholarship and partnership have allowed her to apply to the most competitive liberal arts colleges where she plans to study computer science and English.

“In a few short months, when I sit down with my family to discuss college plans, I do not have to rule out great schools because the price is thousands of dollars out of reach,” said Arely. “I will be able to narrow down the college that best fits me. In order to make the correct college choice, every other component will now be considered – not just the school's price. This opportunity is my chance to prove that all students have great potential.”

About Noble

Noble (www.noblenetwork.org) is Chicago's largest and highest performing network of public high schools. Last year, Noble campuses were eight of the top 10 open enrollment public high schools in Chicago and more than 90 percent of graduates matriculated to college this year. Noble is a non-selective network serving more than 10,000 students throughout Chicago at 16 campuses. Noble campuses are located in some of Chicago's highest need communities and serve a student population that is 89 percent low-income and 98 percent minority. As a public non-selective high school, there are no testing requirements for enrollment at any of Noble's campuses.

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