

October 25, 2021

Dear Friends & Supporters of the President’s Directed Scholarship,

I’m reaching out to update you on the important work that you helped support through your gift to the [President’s Directed Scholarship](#). Your generosity and commitment to supporting students with DACA status at the University of Arizona has afforded educational access to many students this past year. And for this, I cannot thank you enough!

**During the 2020-2021 academic year, the President’s Directed Scholarship distributed \$185,572 in scholarship awards to 36 students.** These scholarship awards reduced the cost of tuition and fees from 150% to 100%, and in some cases additional support was provided. Each semester, a team of staff work together diligently to identify eligible students and award them based on need and available funds. Your gift enabled these scholarship awards to be distributed without interruption, signaling to students that their academic success and well-being was a priority.

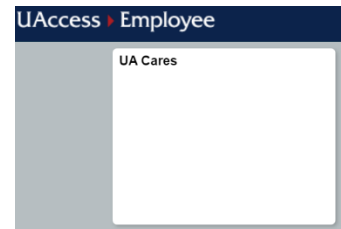
With gratitude to our [Immigrant Student Resource Center](#), scholarship funds are coupled with essential resources for students. In fact, the Immigrant Student Resource Center recently launched an [app aimed at supporting students](#) with undocumented, DACA, asylee, refugee, temporary protected status, and other immigrant status. The app provides students with quick access to essential resources, including admissions, health, legal assistance, financial aid, graduate school, employment, finding community, academics, events, and identifying a mentor.



Although support has strengthened, the pandemic has caused additional financial strain on our DACA students. Some experienced loss of employment, while others experienced intermittent loss of income when their places of employment closed temporarily due to positive COVID cases. Recently, I re-examined my own financial contribution to the President’s Directed Scholarship and committed to give a bit more to support students’ re-enrollment to Spring semester and those trying to complete their degree this year.

During the UA CARES campaign, employees have the opportunity to sign up for payroll deduction, which allows for giving with pre-tax earnings. Sign up by November 12!

1. Go to UAccess Employee and click on the UA CARES tile.
2. Click on “Give through the University of Arizona Foundation”
3. Enter a donated amount per pay period and select “Scholarship and Fellowship Endowment”, type in President’s Directed Scholarship, and continue to click on “Next Step” until the process is completed.



Thank you for partnering to make these essential scholarship opportunities available. I hope that you and your loved ones are in good health and positive spirits.

Be well,

*Marla A Franco*

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