

Fuel the Finish

IN THE IRVIN D. REID HONORS COLLEGE



The Wayne State University Irvin D. Reid Honors College launched the Finish Line Fund campaign in 2020. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, our alumni and friends gave generously to support students. Inspired by that generosity, we are accelerating the pace with Fuel the Finish – an ambitious effort to raise \$1 million over the next four years, reaching that milestone by May 2026.

But first, we aim to raise the initial \$250,000 in just seven months. Launching at the Fuel the Finish event on September 22, 2022, we will work to raise one-quarter of our million-dollar goal by Wayne State's annual Giving Day on April 13, 2023.



Each semester when we look at the tuition bill, we get kind of overwhelmed as students. That's why I was so thankful for this scholarship opportunity. Some might say, 'oh \$1,000, what is that going to do in the long run?' But the fact is, that actually goes very far.

Aaron Fillmore '21
*Honors College graduate
with psychology major*



Focus on the future, not finances

Honors College students at Wayne State have significant financial need. And while almost all Honors students receive some scholarship support, very few receive coveted full-tuition scholarships. Many Honors students thus need to work part-time or even full-time jobs, on top of classes and extracurriculars, to pay for their education.

That's why Dean John Corvino created the Finish Line Fund. The fund provides scholarships to seniors in the Honors College so they can finish strong and focus on their future rather than finances. Ultimately, Dean Corvino aims to make the Honors College tuition-free with a permanent endowment. As a first step, we're endowing the Finish Line Scholarship and distributing \$1,000 awards to as many seniors as possible each year.

Why senior year? The Finish Line Scholarship rewards the hard work of Honors students, who are highly involved and accomplished. It also empowers seniors to focus on their next steps – professional school, graduate school or career – without worrying about additional debt. Approximately 70% of Honors graduates pursue advanced degrees.

When the Finish Line Fund reaches \$1 million, it will produce \$40,000 in annual scholarship funding – enough to support 40 Honors seniors with Finish Line Scholarships. The more the Finish Line endowment grows, the more funding is available to help students reach their goals.

Because we want to help students right away, we've also created an option for donors to support current deserving seniors with immediate gifts. By both growing the endowment and awarding some scholarships now, we can build momentum and maximize the positive impact on students.

How to give

Would you like to help lift financial burdens off students and their families?

Gifts of any amount can support the Finish Line Fund endowment, which generates scholarships for seniors. An endowed scholarship is permanent, so your gift will support students for countless generations. The university carefully invests your gift to ensure ongoing financial support through investment earnings.

Through a multi-year gift commitment, you can join our groups for Founders and Friends.

▶ FOUNDERS

With a gift of at least \$5,000 a year for five years, you can create your own named Finish Line Scholarship endowment.

▶ FRIENDS

With a gift of at least \$1,000 a year for three years, you can become a Finish Line Friend. Instead of going toward the endowment, gifts from Finish Line Friends are awarded right away, allowing us to support more students immediately. (Be sure to designate "Finish Line Expendable Fund" if you want your gift spent right away.)

To make your gift, visit giving.wayne.edu/donate/finishline or mail a check to:

Wayne State University Gift Processing
PO Box 674602
Detroit, MI 48267-4602



The ability to get this scholarship, as well as the support that the Honors College has given us, has been so relieving – not only for me, but for all the recipients. It has really taken a weight off our shoulders.

Slone Terranella '21
*Honors College graduate
with journalism major*



Thank you!