

Originally, Western Illinois University was known as the “Normal School.” Its mission was dedicated to the education and training of students to teach in the country and village schools, as they were then called. To fulfill this mission, an elementary school on campus was considered a necessity. Such a school was opened in 1902, at the same time that classes first began for the Normal School. In 1906, Western Academy was created for the older training school students.

The 1907 *Sequel*, expressed the purpose of the Training School: it was a “research laboratory” where “advanced educational thought takes concrete form” and where the validity and efficiency of advanced teaching methods, developed in the Normal School, were tested on Training School students. Throughout its history, most of our faculty and administrators had advanced degrees in education from highly-respected teacher training institutions, and were dedicated to creating an environment where cutting edge educational theory, research, and methods were used to teach mostly traditional subject matter in a research laboratory setting. As students, we flourished in this enlightened environment where we were the first to receive the benefits of such advanced educational thought.

Western graced Simpkins Hall with a plaque to commemorate its 30 years as the “Laboratory for Future Teachers.” Our school was indeed the incubator for future educators, as many of our graduates chose the field of education as a career. We became teachers, professors, principals, administrators, and counselors, and have been “paying it forward” ever since, which is what we expect of our scholarship recipients.

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## The Western High / Western Academy Scholarship

*The doors have been closed for years, but the spirit lives on in the hearts of alumni, teachers, administrators, employees, and their families who to this day realize that they were blessed to have been a part of such an enlightened school. We are the beneficiaries of its legacy, and wish to continue the spirit in the form of a scholarship fund for deserving WIU education students.*



WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY

To all alumni and friends of Western High School/Western Academy:

We have been working with the Western Illinois University Foundation to create a Western High School/Western Academy Alumni Scholarship. The purpose of the Scholarship would be to honor the spirit of Western High/Academy by providing financial assistance to WIU students majoring in education. We hope to award a Scholarship each year in the amount of \$1,000. To achieve this goal, we need to raise \$25,000 to fully endow the scholarship and generate \$1,000 in interest per year.

Eligible recipients would initially be limited to relatives of alumni, teachers, administrators, or employees of Western High/Academy. The Scholarship criteria is included in this brochure for your review.

We are very excited about the prospect of endowing a Scholarship that will benefit education students attending WIU. Contributions to this scholarship fund can be made in the name of classmates, teachers, administrators, family members, and anyone else that we wish to honor for their association with our School.

Please help us to ensure that the legacy of Western High School/Western Academy lives on in perpetuity by making your gift today.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated!

Very truly yours,

John Knowles, '68

Darlos Mummert, '69

## Western High/Western Academy Scholarship Criteria

The purpose of this scholarship fund is to honor the spirit of our School by providing financial assistance to students majoring in education at Western Illinois University.

To be eligible for this scholarship, the applicant must:

1. Be enrolled as a full-time student at Western Illinois University.
2. Be related to a former student, teacher, administrator, or employee of Western High School/Academy.
3. If no applicants meet # 2 above, consideration will be given to WIU students who graduated from a high school in McDonough County. If there are no applicants from McDonough County, consideration will be given to WIU students who graduated from a high school in one of the counties that border McDonough County. Those counties include Hancock, Henderson, Warren, Fulton, and Schuyler.
4. Be enrolled in the student teaching semester within the next academic year following the application submittal.
5. Have maintained at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average.
6. Write a one page essay describing applicant's intent to "pay it forward" (give back to the profession) as an educator.

## The Western High/Western Academy Scholarship

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/We would like to support the Western High/Western Academy Scholarship Endowment.

Please check **one** of the following options:

I/We wish to make a gift of :

\$500  \$250  \$100  \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I/We wish to want to make a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ via a credit card.

Please complete the following information:

Type of Card:

VISA  MasterCard

American Express  Discover

Name as it appears on Card:

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**All gifts qualify for federal income tax deductions to the extent provided by law. Checks should be made payable to the Western Illinois University Foundation.**

Please complete and return this form in the enclosed business reply envelope or send it to:  
WIU Foundation, SH 303, 1 University Circle,  
Macomb, IL 61455