“My scholarship gave me motivation to work hard, and it helps me feel supported by others.”

ETHAN YOUNG | MEDICAL LAKE, WASH.
What makes us different?

At Sterling College, it is our mission “to develop creative and thoughtful leaders who understand a maturing Christian faith.”

For 126 years, Sterling has been transforming the lives of students. Our charge to develop servant leaders who will go out and change the world is being strengthened as we collectively serve our students by investing in their higher education. For many students, their experience at Sterling College is marked by transformative change. Participation in Sterling’s mission is essential to this transformation. Through the gift of scholarships, our students have the opportunity to turn that mission into a reality.

The importance of scholarships

Sterling College has a long history of providing scholarships and other types of financial aid to recognize merit and meet our student’s financial needs. Every student who attends Sterling College will receive some form of scholarship or financial aid. Scholarship assistance is essential to recruiting students to Sterling and to their success. Without scholarship funding, a Christ-centered college education is not an option for many of our students.

Generous and visionary gifts from our alumni and friends bless the lives of Sterling students both spiritually and academically.

What our students are saying

“Music is my passion and being able to share that with the faculty and classmates fills me with true joy and it is because of my scholarship that I can continue to pursue that passion.”

JORDAN HIMES | EUREKA, KAN.

“By awarding me this scholarship, you blessed both my wife and me. I felt more confident in my finances and was thus able to more appropriately spend time on my studies.”

PHILIP TAYLOR ’14 | NORCO, CALIF.

“Thank you for making it possible for me to attend a school where I am free to walk the closest I possibly can with Jesus.”

JAMIE KAY TILTON | SCOTT CITY, KAN.
Donor testimonials

Florence and her late husband, Ollie, met while they were students at Sterling College. “I think the reason we hit it off so well was because we both had similar childhoods—poor and isolated,” remarked Florence as she reflected on their days at Sterling, their marriage and the more than 50 years that God had given them together.

Since Ollie’s passing, Florence has established four separate endowed student scholarships at Sterling in the areas that she and Ollie loved and found beneficial during their days on campus. To honor Ollie’s life, endowed scholarships were created for a baseball player and a men’s basketball player. In Florence’s name, an endowed scholarship exists for a student pursuing elementary education and one for a young woman on the Lady Warrior basketball team. Florence also gave a special gift to purchase a new state-of-the-art scoreboard for the baseball program in Ollie’s memory.

“I just hope that today’s young people will find the joy of giving and helping others,” said Florence. “We live in a society that is pushing us to more individualism. We need to be a people of communication and caring, and I fear we are not moving in that direction. What Ollie and I have done, and want to do for Sterling and other charities we love, is show others that giving is important and needed. I’m grateful that God gave us the first example of giving when he gave us our Savior Jesus Christ.”

“My parents believed in the importance of investing in the lives of young people. They longed for the Lord’s work to be continued through the next generations. We created this scholarship in their memory for an upper classman that displays a servant-leader heart. It has been a joy to meet many of the students who have benefited and are now fulfilling my parents’ legacy through their Theology and Ministry and Education scholarship.”

CAROL RAY SONNEVIK
How you can help

To provide financial aid for Sterling students, an individual, family, or a group can:

• Give to an existing endowed scholarship
• Invest in the general endowed scholarship fund
• Create a new annual or endowed scholarship

1. Types of scholarship funds

Named endowed scholarships provide scholarships each year from a portion of the fund’s invested earnings. When you give a minimum of $25,000 (may be funded over five years), you can create a named endowed scholarship fund. A formal scholarship agreement with Sterling will specify qualifying criteria like major, grade-point-average or other criteria that a student must meet to receive the scholarship.

Named annual scholarships are typically awarded the academic year in which the gift is received by Sterling College. These scholarships are funded with $1,000 or more for a minimum of four years to provide continuity of the award to a student from first-year enrollment through graduation. A scholarship agreement will specify qualifying criteria such as major, grade-point-average or other criteria that a student must meet in order to receive the scholarship.

General or endowed scholarships support all types of financial aid and helps students who otherwise might not be able to attend Sterling. Gifts to the Sterling Fund are combined with other generous gifts to provide needed scholarships.

2. Ways to fund a scholarship or an endowment

• Cash
• Appreciated assets like crops, stocks, real estate, etc.
• Donor-Advised Fund
• Estate gifts like bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, insurance policies or other types of planned giving

3. Endowed naming opportunities

Most endowed funds or scholarships are named in honor or memory of individuals or organizations that characterize principles, values and achievements that donors wish to recognize and perpetuate. These expressions of gratitude are then embodied in students living and learning on the campus of Sterling College. Names of an endowed fund are created by the founding donor(s). Endowed gift naming opportunities include:

Endowed Trustee Scholarship: $250,000
Named Endowed Scholarships: $25,000 and above
Annual Scholarships (non-endowed) $1,000 and above

Information regarding other Sterling College naming opportunities for campus improvements, academic departments, faculty positions and lectureships is available by request.