





## **Letter from Mayor & Chancellor**

The students of Chicago have shown us that when we raise our expectations for what our children can achieve, and provide them with the resources and guidance they need to succeed, there is no limit to what they can accomplish. And the Star Scholarship is proof.

We created the Star Scholarship in 2014 to reward high-achieving Chicago Public Schools graduates and ensure more students could access a viable pathway to college at no cost. Now more than 4,500 students from more than 75 zip codes and more than 200 high schools citywide have used the scholarship as a stepping stone.

Chicago students are working hard, and we are proud to help them college degrees and the career opportunities that come with it, regardless of financial means and regardless of immigration status. That includes Star Scholars like Octavia Coaks, who graduated from Olive-Harvey College and went on to pursue criminal justice and criminology at Loyola University, and Ozzy Ordonez who graduated from both Sarah E. Goode STEM Academy and Richard J. Daley in the same year before entering the University of Illinois at Chicago.

These stories can be your stories. Students who maintain a 3.0 GPA and test nearly college-ready can access the Star Scholarship. For the students who choose to continue on to pursue a bachelor's degree after City Colleges, more than 20 four-year colleges and universities offer significant transfer scholarships to graduates. That means students can complete the first two years of college for free, and the second two years at a significant discount.

We also encourage you to read on and explore what makes this such a unique opportunity. Talk to your high school counselor, or reach out to CCC at starscholarship@ccc.edu or call 312-553-3071. To learn more about the Star Scholarship, visit www.ccc.edu/futurestar. To learn more about the City Colleges of Chicago and its programs, visit www.ccc.edu.

Regardless of where your educational journey takes you, we encourage you to continue to work hard as you strive to reach all of your goals. You make us proud today and we know you will make our City even prouder in the future.

Rahm Emanuel Mayor, City of Chicago Juan Salgado

Chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago





### **Star Scholar Profile**

Star Scholars hail from more than **75** Chicago zip codes and more than **200** high schools

4,502
Current Star Scholars

62<sup>%</sup>

36<sup>%</sup>

2% Non-Specified 80%
First Generation
College-goer



- Hispanic 67% (3,022)
- African-American 18% (803)
- White 8% (355)
- Asian 4.5% (207)
- Multi-Racial Non-Hispanic 2% (94)
- Not Specified 0.4% (17)
  Hawaii/Pacific Islander (3)
  American Indian (1)

Retention:

85.3% Fall 2016 Cohort (Fall 2016-Fall 2017)

GPA:

2.75
(All Star Scholars

# Completion

Star Scholars are expected to graduate at a rate more than **double** the national average

National 2-year public college graduation rate (latest available)

Star Scholar graduation rate (projected) 22%

49%

This is the projected IPEDS FY2018 cohort graduation rate for Star Scholars, including spring and summer expected completers. 49% of Star Scholars in the FY2018 IPEDS cohort have or are expected to graduate on time

# Transfer

More than **250** Star Scholars have already transferred to a four-year college or university.

Star Scholars have been offered additional scholarships from Star Transfer partners to continue to a bachelor's degree totaling:

\$2.6 Million

#### **Star Scholarship Transfer Partners**

Columbia College DePaul University Dominican University Governors State University

Elmhurst College Illinois Institute of Technology

Illinois State University Kendall College

Loyola University

Marquette University
National Louis University

North Park University Northeastern Illinois U

Northeastern Illinois University Northwestern University

Robert Morris University

Roosevelt University

Saint Xavier University

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

The University of Chicago

University of Illinois at Chicago



# Star Scholar Success

Jada DeJesus, Chicago Star Scholar

Jada began attending Wright College in fall 2015 as one of the members of the inaugural class of Chicago Star Scholars

After Wright, she transferred to Northwestern University where she is pursuing studies in international business. Northwestern is one of 21 Chicago-area colleges and universities partnering with City Colleges to provide special scholarships to Chicago Star students like Jada. As a participant in the STAR partnership program, Jada receives up to \$50,000 per year toward the completion of her bachelor's degree at Northwestern.

She is extremely glad she made the decision to attend Wright. "Community college for me was not the end but rather a new and better beginning," says Jada. "Not only did I save \$20,000 in student loans by attending Wright, I was also admitted to one of the top schools in the country. I am grateful for the Star Scholarship, and I wouldn't be where I am today without it."



CME Group, the Star Scholarship's first corporate partner, has awarded \$250,000 in additional scholarships and connected Star Scholars to paid internships at Chicago financial firms.

