## **CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois**

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs

RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT





## Marlene **Medina**

Staff Accountant | Wermer Rogers Doran & Ruzon LLC

Marlene grew up knowing her parents wanted nothing more than to give her a better life. She always worked hard in school, but sometimes language and cultural barriers made her question if she was "good enough" to attend college, let alone earn her CPA. With the support and encouragement of her family, she applied to and was accepted into college. Financially, it was a struggle, yet she persevered, worked full time throughout college, and earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of St. Francis in 2019.

After graduation, Marlene wanted to pursue her CPA, but the additional financial and time commitments required of her as a young professional with a full-time job were daunting. Still, seeing her coworkers earn their CPAs pushed her to visit the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois website, where CPA Exam Award applications were being accepted. She applied and was selected for the scholarship, which gave her the confidence she needed to not give up before she even began her CPA journey.

The support of generous donors like you empowered her to take on the challenging CPA exam process. Now, she's able to honor her parents' sacrifices by continuing to achieve her goals. She's committed to reaching the finish line and obtaining her CPA, no matter what it takes!

Your donation supports scholarships and outreach programs that provide financial assistance and encouragement to hundreds of hard-working, talented students like Marlene. With your help, we can light the path for other future CPAs and ensure the relevance of this coveted credential well into the future.

We are proud to support students like Marlene!



To donate using a credit card or checking account, please use the secure online form or call. If you prefer to send a check, make it payable to CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois and use this form.

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