

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Wakeelah Bradley

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

Roosevelt University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors & Donors:

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for making me a 2020 laptop recipient. I am delighted and very appreciative since learning of my selection for this great honor from your esteemed organization. Your generous support allows me to continuously work toward my goal uninterrupted.

I am senior at Roosevelt University. My goal is to become a CPA. I will enroll in graduate school Spring 2021. As a recipient of a new laptop, the significance has an immeasurable positive impact toward achieving my goal. It would help me to study more effectively as well as increase productivity by utilizing planners and/or smart calendars. A calendar and/or planner would help me keep things organized and adhere to a structured studying schedule. Most importantly, it would boost my confidence for my performance and would encourage me to learn with more dedication without fretting about the required resources, study material, or electronic device to do so. Also, it would enable me to perform better by utilizing online study groups.

As a recipient of a new laptop, my endeavors would continue. I would network with other professionals within the accounting industry and eventually become a leader to others when I achieve CPA status. As a leader in the accounting industry regardless of my level of experience, position or situation, I would continuously support, encourage and motivate others personally,

and of course, through an online format utilizing a laptop to help me reach a broad range of others.

Today, a vast number of professionals are utilizing laptops; it has become so significant. The most significant meaning of owning a laptop is the advancement of technology. As a 21st century accountant, I must have strong skills in information technology to work competently in the industry therefore, a laptop would be critical. I could familiarize myself with various accounting software using a laptop. It amazes me that a laptop has become so significant in the advancement of technology; it has become a vital part of my professional and academic growth. Nevertheless, a laptop means my career, my success, my future as a 21st century accountant!

Thank you so much, my gratitude is boundless.

Sincerely,

Wakeelah Bradley

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Camille Anne Fajardo

Hometown

Darien, IL

College

University of Illinois at Chicago

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Donors of the ICPAS Laptop Scholarship,

I would like to personally thank the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois, Illinois CPA Society, Board of Directors and to the donors who have contributed to this scholarship.

My name is Camille Anne Fajardo, and I am a senior accounting student from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Due to COVID-19, it had affected our education system, moving all the students and staff to a virtual setting. In my application for this scholarship, I had mentioned that this scholarship will give my family and I a chance to be comfortable given the circumstances that we are facing. Both my parents work from home, and all my family members are using the same home computer; this scholarship will give relief to my family having not to share the same computer for both school and work. Recently, many events, including the senior graduation ceremonies, have been cancelled due to the virus, but this scholarship that has been kindly offered to me is like a personal graduation present to my family and me.

In the long run, this scholarship will help me through my process of becoming a Certified Public Accountant. Many of the study materials, study guides and essential preparation for the CPA exam are offered as a self-study course and I plan to take online classes to review for the exam. I will use this scholarship as a resource to best assist me with my studies for the CPA exam, apply for future job opportunities, and advance myself in the accounting profession.

Again, I sincerely thank the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois for this award. I hope to make a difference in the accounting field, and I am grateful for this opportunity, given during these difficult times.

Sincerely,
Camille Anne Fajardo

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Melanie Gangolf

Hometown

Oak Forest, IL

College

Governors State University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors,

I just received word that I am one of the recipients of a lap tap from the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois. I am so appreciative for this award and I wanted to tell you how this will impact my future.

In 2018, I embarked on one of my greatest challenges, to return to college. My goal was to finish what I started as a young ambitious woman in 1989. Back then, the future lay ahead of me, bright with rewards for hard work. Life has a way of getting in the way and my desire to become a CPA, took a backseat to raising three wonderful children, who are now, wonderful young adults. It was time to get back to my 30+ year old goal.

This newly divorced, determined woman set out to prove the statistics wrong. I would not only graduate with a BS in Accounting, but I would go on to pass the CPA and finally sit behind a desk with the framed proof of my success hanging on the wall. Everything has been going to plan, I have done well in my classes with a 3.64 GPA and only 6 classes left. I am in a place where I can see the light at the end of my tunnel.

You can imagine my frustration when I realized that the lack of a laptop was going to make a difference in my school performance. I long admired the students with laptops, following the professor's lecture easily with it propped open in front of them. It seemed a luxury though, an obstacle that I would have to work around. As a single mother with limited resources and

children who came first, a laptop was out of my budget. Increasingly though, this luxury started to look like a necessity, and I was falling behind in projects without the ability to share my work with my professor in class.

The laptop I have been awarded will make an immense difference in my performance and ultimately, my future. I will have the ability to share projects one on one with my professor with the chance to ask direct questions on the spot. I will be able to follow the instruction in class and take notes systematically. I will be allowed to excel and have a dedicated laptop for my final senior projects. Going forward in the pursuit of my CPA, I will be able to achieve what I have been striving toward, to be the best me!

I wanted to extend a huge and sincere thank you from my accrual-based, CPA striving, bottom line, trued up, heart!

Sincerely,

Melanie Gangolf

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Rachel Grimaud

Hometown

Normal, IL

College

Illinois State University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois' Board of Directors and donors,

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of a new laptop computer. I am extremely appreciative of your generosity and consideration. This laptop means that I can direct my focus completely to my academics and not have technical issues to stress about, especially during this time where other options or resources unavailable.

This award will be a tool to enable me to pursue becoming a CPA. A laptop will allow me to study, do coursework, and focus more efficiently without complications or distractions. It will improve my learning and understanding of accounting material. An improved learning environment will enable me to become the best CPA and leader I can be in the future.

Thank you again for this meaningful and useful award.

Sincerely,

Rachel Grimaud

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Mahnoor Haider

Hometown

Skokie, IL

College

DePaul University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

To the Board of Directors and Donors of the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois,

My name is Mahnoor Haider, a freshman accounting major at DePaul University. I would like to personally thank everyone involved in giving me the opportunity to further pursue my accounting studies with the gift of the Laptop Scholarship.

In these difficult and confusing times, many classes and services must rapidly adapt and go online in order to ensure the safety of students. However, this leaves many to face unforeseen circumstances, such as losing access to public facilities such as libraries and computer labs. Just because physical classrooms are not accessible does not mean that learning has stopped, but many are left with the barrier of being unable to access these materials. After my local library shut down until at least mid-April, I was left without a functioning personal laptop to complete my various online courses.

However, thanks to the Board of Directors and donors to the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois, I've been given a chance to excel in my academic career without the worries that come from financial stress. The award truly means everything to me, as it will allow me to access my courses and engage in meaningful discussions with classmates and professors even while at home. I hope that my knowledge will continue to expand as I pursue an accounting profession through the various resources that the Illinois CPA Society offers to make students CPA ready as well.

Once again, thank you for aiding me in these tough times, and I wish you all safety and good health as well!

Sincerely,
Mahnoor Haider

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Rexesha Hollis

Hometown

Joliet, IL

College

University of St. Francis

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Illinois CPA Society Board of Directors and Donors,

I first want to start off by thanking all of you for selecting me to be one of the five recipients for a new laptop computer. This means a lot especially during the time period we are in and I hope you are all safe and stay that way. My laptop has become an essential need in my life during the past couple of years as technology is increasing and virtual and online classes are becoming a substitute for the traditional learning. Currently I utilize my laptop to download software for my accounting classes such as excel templates for Advanced Accounting Derivatives, IDEA software and Tableau for auditing, and Quick books. These are all types of software that the accounting program at University of St. Francis offer.

The main reason why I needed a new laptop is because there has been numerous occasions where I was competing assignment on my laptop for a class on Microsoft Word where my computer would shut down without being prompted to, which resulted in all my work being deleted and sometimes the autosave feature wasn't working. This has caused assignments turning in late, and sometimes being kicked out of quizzes. I am thankful that I now can utilize this new laptop without having disruptions for a while. I can also utilize this laptop to study for my CPA exam. This computer will help with my goals of becoming a CPA and a future leader in the accounting profession because it will allow for a smother process for all my schoolwork and for my CPA studying course online. Overall, I am so happy to finally have some relief of being able to complete my assignment on my own personal laptop instead of having to go to the computer lab or the walk to the school library late at night. Once again, I want to thank the Illinois CPA Society for all that you do!

Sincerely,

Rexesha Hollis

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



ILLINOIS CPA SOCIETY



Lashauni Lashley

Hometown

Oak Park, IL

College

DePaul University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

To the Board of Directors and Donors of the ICPA Society,

It is with tremendous gratitude I would like to thank each and every person involved in awarding me with a new laptop. As you all know, getting an education has become a difficult task during the Covid-19 pandemic. With all classes being transferred online and all public access to technology shutting down, it would have been hard for me to be successful during this quarter. This laptop has given me the chance to continue my academic journey without worrying if I will have access to the resources I need to complete my online classes. I can not express the feeling of relief you all have provided me with. Not only will I have access to my course materials but I will also have access to your website and many others that specialize in helping growing accountants prepare for the CPA exam. With the proper resources, I could only imagine how far I will get in my accounting career and I have you all to thank for that.

Sincerely,
Lashauni Lashley

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



ILLINOIS CPA SOCIETY



Yadira Medina

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

University of Illinois at Chicago

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and Donors at CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois,

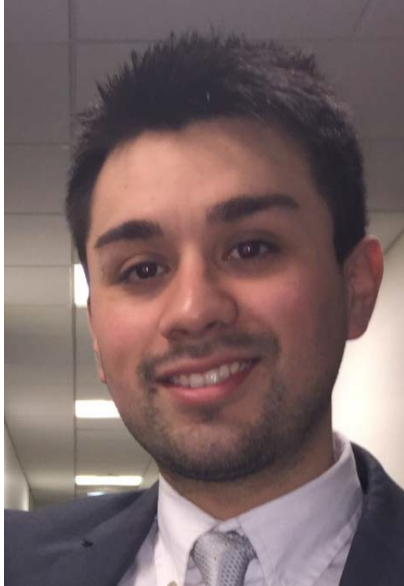
I am eternally grateful for this award and I thank all of its donors and providers. When I heard the news that I had won the laptop I couldn't believe it. I had struggled to buy myself a laptop for quite a few years, but now I am being awarded one, I am thankful. This award means so much to me, it has given me hope to think there's great people out in the world that are ready to give back and help those who need it most. This award is a sign for me to keep working hard for my degree no matter the obstacles, helping me achieve my short term goals as well as long term goals. The new laptop computer will enable me to achieve my goals in becoming a CPA by helping me excel in my classes, develop my professional portfolio, and be prepared for the CPA exam. Thus, being the first one in my family to graduate college and being an inspiration to those who are also first-gen looking to major in accounting. I want to thank the Board of Directors and Donors at CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois again for awarding this laptop to me and giving me the opportunity to flourish my career in accounting besides the hardships.

Sincerely,

Yadira Medina

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Noe Navarro

Hometown

Chicago Heights, IL

College

Governors State University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and donors,

I wanted to say thank you for electing me to receive this award. It means so much to me that it's difficult to put into words. Ever since losing my job because of the Covid-19 pandemic, I have been really stressed and worried. I have no income to purchase a laptop of my own and with the schools libraries and computer labs being closed it has made having access to a computer very difficult. I have been really struggling to study and complete my online assignments. I have been using my phone to study but I have been really behind on my work. Now that I'll receive this laptop I'll have the tools to finish this semester strong. Awarding me this laptop will allow me to be more efficient in my studies and allow me to have better time management, which will help me achieve my dream. Which is to be a great accountant. Once again thank you so much from the bottom of my heart.

With warm regards,

Noe Navarro

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Eva Nicholson

Hometown

Park Ridge, IL

College

Oakton Community College

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and Donors:

Thank you very much for your wonderful award. Having a laptop will enable me to get more work done since I will be able to carry it and use it anywhere where I am free of distraction. A dependable computer is necessary for the successful completion of accounting courses. I look forward to utilizing it to further improve my accounting skills in my educational setting while taking all the necessary courses required for a CPA preparation certificate. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Eva Nicholson

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Kaydan Pascual

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

DePaul University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors/Donors,

I am writing to say thank you for selecting me as a recipient of a new laptop computer. Receiving a new laptop means a lot, especially with the situation of COVID – 19. Being at home without a laptop, self – quarantine, and completing assignments on my phone was a huge challenge.

With a new laptop, I will be able to complete my accounting assignments and individual projects, in order to be successful in my accounting classes and focus on my studies. In addition, being a recipient of a new laptop, it will help me as a college student, in preparation for the CPA exam. Each accounting I am currently and will be taking, I will be able to access online resources, such as additional study materials where I will have access to practice and be well prepare to take the exam, in order to be successful at becoming a CPA.

As a recipient of a new laptop, I will be able to go to schools and present on the accounting profession, what it means to be an accounting major, and become an accountant. Receiving this laptop computer will help me to accomplishing that goal of becoming a future leader within the accounting profession. Again, I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient, it means a lot to me and it is a blessing.

Thank you,
Kaydan

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Stephanie Peric

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

Loyola University Chicago

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and Donors,

As a recipient of the Laptop Scholarship for Accounting Students, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your support of the ICPAS Student Members.

I am currently finishing up my third year as an Accounting major at Loyola University Chicago. Studying at the Quinlan School of Business has been a privilege and my experiences have surpassed my expectations. The professors and faculty have been a great help throughout my journey here and I am beyond grateful for the connections I have made. Outside of the classroom, I am an Accounting Intern for Loyola and I am also a part of both the Club Tennis team and the Snowboard and Ski Club.

Through your generous support, it is possible for me to finish this school year at ease. I will also have a laptop that will help me finish my remaining year in school and help me accomplish all of my future career goals. For this I am genuinely grateful and cannot thank you enough.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Peric

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Eloise Publico

Hometown

Decatur, IL

College

Illinois State University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and Donors,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois for making it possible for me to follow my goals of becoming a CPA. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for the award of a new laptop computer. I am both honored and deeply appreciative of your support.

This award would greatly help me get through college. Obtaining this award means I am a step closer to my goals, as I do not have to worry about technological problems with this new laptop computer for a while. That is how much this award means to me. This new laptop could open more opportunities for me, as I am now able to give my full effort without technological restraints. I will cherish this new laptop computer, and with all my heart, I am grateful to the Board of Directors and donors of the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois for providing me a clearer road towards my goals. With your help, my path to becoming a CPA is now clearer.

By awarding me a new laptop computer, you have lightened the weight on my shoulders, both financially and academically. This award will help me significantly because this new computer will allow me to focus more on the most important aspect of college, and that is acquiring new

knowledge and skills to help me succeed as a CPA and a future leader in the accounting profession. I am sincerely thankful for the award, and I hope one day, I will be able to give your kindness back to the community and help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Eloise Publica

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



ILLINOIS CPA SOCIETY



Jazmina Smith

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

Loyola University Chicago

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Illinois CPA Society and CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois,

I appreciate the support for the 2020 Laptop Scholarship. It is because of your act of kindness that I am able to work more efficiently during the current circumstances. Also, I am able to have a personal laptop for my undergraduates and future career path in accounting.

I am a Senior majoring in accounting at Loyola University Chicago. I chose accounting due to my great communication skills, attention to details, and interest in numbers, which are great attributes to have as an accountant because accountants are required to interact and focus on clients. Upon graduation, I hope to become a CPA and a future leader in the accounting profession, which is why the laptop means a lot to me. The laptop would allow me to utilize Excel as well as accounting software and create presentations that are essential in handling future business dealing. A laptop is a key part of my career path.

Thank you again for your consideration and all that you are doing to help support students achieve their dreams.

Sincerely,
Jazmina Smith

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



Aundrea Winbush

Hometown

Maywood, IL

College

Northeastern Illinois University

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors & Donors,

My name is Aundrea Winbush and I am honored to be one of the five recipients of the special Laptop Scholarships. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and support during this time. Thanks to your donation, I am able to continue my education at Northeastern Illinois University without any major issues.

This laptop will not only allow me to remain actively involved in the classroom, but it is also a tool that will allow me to begin preparing for my CPA exam. As a student who did not pursue a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, this award feels like more than a laptop. This award (to me) feels like a stamp of acceptance and approval from a society of individuals who have gone the distance. It also symbolizes a challenge or a call to action for me to do what I have to do to one day be able to say, "I'm A CPA".

Thank you for enabling me to reach my fullest educational, personal, and professional potential. I am truly thankful and honored.

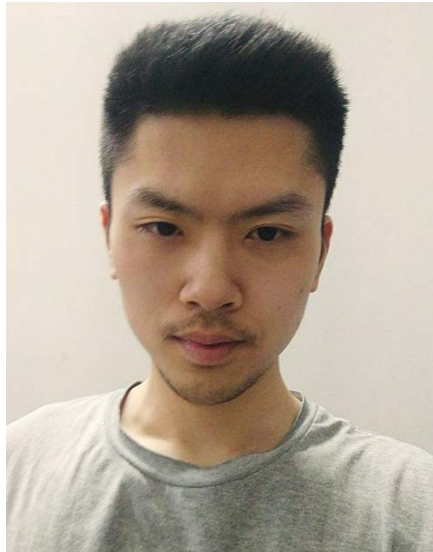
Thankfully,
Aundrea Winbush

CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois

Paving the Way for Tomorrow's CPAs



ILLINOIS CPA SOCIETY



Derek Yuan

Hometown

Chicago, IL

College

University of Illinois at Chicago

Scholarship

Emergency Laptop Scholarship

Dear Board of Directors and donors,

Thank you very much for making the ICPAS Laptop Scholarship possible! I am extremely honored to be one of the recipients of this award.

I am currently a junior majoring in Accounting at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and my goal is to become a CPA. This laptop scholarship really brings me a step closer to achieve my goal, especially during this pandemic where a computer becomes a necessity not only for online classes, but also for exploring new employment opportunities since I recently lost my job. Most importantly, this award unlocks endless potential opportunities for me because now I can finally further expand my accounting knowledge by studying and practicing new materials on this new computer, knowing that unlike my old laptop, it will not suddenly blackout. With this new computer, I will connect with other accounting students and professionals online and discuss topics related to public accounting and the business world so that I can improve myself as a business professional.

Again, thank you for funding this scholarship! I will work hard to get the most out of my education and make my goal a reality. I am confident that one day, I can also give back to the community and help other students achieve their goals.

Sincerely,
Derek Yuan