

2016-2017 Education Fund Scholarships



In 2016-17 PLATO will provide scholarship and grant assistance to three University of Wisconsin–Madison returning adult students, one Odyssey Project student, and the educational advancement of young people through two community agencies. This is all made possible by PLATO members who value lifelong learning and generously support our work on behalf of students who would be left out of educational opportunities due to financial need.

Returning Adult Student Program

Administered through the UW-Madison Division of Continuing Studies, these scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis and are targeted toward single-parent students and other nontraditional adult returnees. Financial need and academic potential are critical components in determining the awards. For 2016-17 the PLATO Education Fund is supporting three \$3,000 scholarships.



Jennifer Bradley is a single mother who spent many years juggling full-time work, caring for a child with epilepsy, and pursuing an undergraduate education. Her goal has been to use education as a way to escape poverty. Having just completed her bachelor's degree in social work, she continues at UW-Madison pursuing a master's in social work.



Elizabeth Gabrielse married soon after high school and began the task of raising a family. Fifteen years later she found herself struggling as a single mother working in a low-income job. She decided to go back to school and graduated in spring 2016 with a bachelor's degree. She is now in the master's in social work program with the goal of counseling birth mothers and adoptive parents who are considering adoption.



Linda Orie is a member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. She grew up with a strong commitment to education. She completed her bachelor's degree and taught for many years at Menominee Tribal School. Her personal mission is to help underserved youth gain access to quality education and to be an effective voice in promoting educational opportunities, so she is now pursuing a graduate degree at UW-Madison.

Odyssey Project



The PLATO Education Fund provides a scholarship (\$4,200) for one Odyssey Project student. For more than a decade the Odyssey Project (odyssey.wisc.edu) has helped adults begin the journey out of poverty through free access to a yearlong intensive course in the humanities designed to help them become college-ready. More than 300 students have completed the program, with over 50% continuing their education after Odyssey.

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Community Organizations

In 2016 the PLATO Education Fund began supporting two community education initiatives aimed at low-income and disadvantaged youth. Through grants of \$2,000 each to the Lussier Community Education Center and the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, PLATO is demonstrating our commitment to learning at all ages.

Lussier Community Education Center



The PLATO Education Fund Grant will support the program Creating Opportunities in Math, Engineering, Technology & Science (COMETS). This program is targeted toward fifth graders and gives them ongoing, hands-on exposure to learning about science. (25 active enrollees)

Boys and Girls Club of Dane County



The PLATO Education Fund Grant will support the Power Hour Program. This program provides homework assistance and tutoring at two sites. The purpose is to improve children's academic skills by providing effective, consistent support to reinforce doing homework and fortify what is being taught at school. (150 active enrollees)

Donate to the PLATO Education Fund

The Gift of Education—Helping PLATO Help Others

Your education has helped you in life, and now you can help others by donating to the PLATO Education Fund. This fund has been established through the UW Foundation to provide financial assistance for low-income, marginalized students pursuing a college education, and to support educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth through local community organizations. Your tax-deductible donation to the PLATO Education Fund helps to provide scholarships and funding to assist local community education initiatives. See the reverse side or above for more information about the 2016-17 recipients of PLATO Education Fund scholarships and community agency grants.

Make checks payable to: **UW Foundation PLATO Fund (12907458)**

Mail to:

**UW Foundation PLATO Fund
US Bank Lockbox
PO Box 78807
Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807**

Or donate online via credit card at **platomadison.org/donations**

Additional ways to give:

The UW Foundation offers a variety of gift options you may wish to explore. Careful planning can maximize the positive effects of outright contributions such as cash, appreciated securities, life insurance policies, real estate, and gifts of personal property, as well as deferred gifts such as bequests, testamentary trusts, and life income trusts. For more information visit **supportuw.org**.

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