

Dear American Association of State Troopers,

Thank you so much for your generous scholarship. It is really encouraging to know that there are organizations in this world that care about young people and their dreams. But first you need to know who I am, my name is Rachel Martin. I grew up in southern Oregon and went to a good, private school called Cascade Christian High School. I am now also attending Western Oregon University as a freshman, and cannot wait for what's to come. Education has always been my passion and unlike some students, I actually enjoy going to school. At the age of twelve, I knew I wanted to become a teacher, but as the years went on I needed to know what type of teacher. So when I looked into different levels of education, I was bombarded by so many options. But when I volunteered for the Down Syndrome Association in my hometown, I knew right away that special education was meant for me. Those kids opened up my eyes to what my future could be.

So now that I know what my future consists of, I want to do something fun while I have the chance. I plan on joining the study abroad program for Scotland. Hopefully, in my sophomore year I will be eligible for the program. Traveling the world and seeing its wonders is another major goal of mine. A church that I attended throughout my life really encouraged missions, and becoming involved with a missions group of some kind through college would be an amazing thing. I feel it would be a great opportunity for me to help kids around the world to have a chance for an education. Everything I do and become involved with may it be sports, student government, and church activities will only help me achieve what I want. Thank you once again for giving me this scholarship because it really helped ease the financial burdens that me and so many of my peers are in. I am very blessed with this scholarship and I pray you will be blessed as well.

Sincerely,

Rachel Martin