



Associated Colleges of Illinois

Nikyra Washington
Knox College
ACI General Scholarship



Nikyra Washington chose [Knox College](#) in Galesburg, Illinois, to pursue an education major for many reasons. Primarily, she wants to teach. Also, students had a voice at Knox and could make a difference, something she wanted to experience in college. "I also noticed Knox really pushed students to learn how to critically think," she says. And, she is taking advantage of Knox's liberal arts offerings, adding a double minor in Africana Studies and Spanish.

A junior from Evanston, Illinois, Washington says she hopes to teach fourth graders. "I've worked with elementary school students for three summers now. I really liked it. At the same time, I love all students. I work with middle-school students and high-school students as well. Any opportunity I get to work with students is an amazing opportunity for me," she says. Another possible career is working on school equity issues, to help students get what they need in school, she says.

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While at Knox, Washington is a resident advisor, is now in her second year as president of the Allied Blacks for Liberty and Equality, and is a member of the Multicultural Students Advisory Council. She is also a tutor for the Center for Intercultural Life.

Washington helps finance her college education with an ACI General Scholarship. "If I didn't have the funds, I would be able to come to college," she says. "I love school. So, being able to have the opportunity to receive my education and to pursue what I want to pursue is super important and super amazing that I can even do this." Scholarships change families, Washington says, adding that she and her siblings all hope to earn college degrees."

College can honestly change your life and help you pursue the passions and the jobs you want to do," Washington says. "It means a lot to be supported by ACI. Thank you so much."