



Associated Colleges of Illinois

Tiniya "Tini" Wright-Bell
Judson University
ACI General Scholarship

Tini Wright-Bell thought that after high school she would go far away to college, perhaps to a school in California. But her grandmother heard an ad for [Judson University](#) in Elgin, Illinois, while listening to Pandora, the online music service, and suggested she check it out. "We came to a preview day, and the rest is history, says Wright-Bell, a junior psychology major. "I came here, and I love it."



Wright-Bell, from Glendale Heights, Illinois, says for the past 13 years, her mother has been missing, a reason why she studies psychology. "I kind of wanted to help other children who might feel alone like in my situation, not having a parent. I wanted to be sure to let them know there is someone there that cares about them," she says, adding she has a specific interest in child advocacy.

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To supplement her education, Wright-Bell has interned at the Elgin Boys and Girls Club, which she describes as a safe place for students after school, providing meals and homework help. She is also a member of the university's Spirit Squad.

Wright-Bell's ACI General Scholarship has made it possible for her to reside on campus, a big help, she says. "Last year, I was a commuter. That commute was very hectic in the mornings when I had to drive all the way back to Judson every single morning. It helped me get back on campus and be part of the culture again," Wright-Bell says. She is also grateful for donors that provided funds for the scholarship. "You may be able to help a student get out of a bad situation," she says of donors. "You're also helping that student be able to be part of the community and be part of college life."