



Associated Colleges of Illinois

Ellie Anglin
Illinois College
Paccar Foundation Scholarship



Ellie Anglin originally came to [Illinois College](#) in Jacksonville on a music scholarship. From Belleville, Illinois, Anglin says it was the "close-knit vibe" on the campus that led her to choose Illinois College. Now a junior, Anglin eventually focused her studies on two personal interests: history and secondary education. "I have a lot of family members who are teachers," she says. "I look up to them." Anglin hopes to teach 7th and 8th grade students. A second interest is history, she says, adding that she likes documentaries, visiting museums and taking history classes.

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Ideally, she'd like to teach history to secondary school students, and possibly move later into a different occupation. "I want to teach for a few years," Anglin says, "then I want to go get my master's and be a principal of a school." In fact, ACI member colleges and

universities outpace the state's largest higher education institutions in the number of education majors who earn degrees.

Helping Anglin achieve her dreams is a Paccar Foundation Scholarship awarded to her through ACI.

It happened after her father was hospitalized with pneumonia. Further testing showed he was in kidney failure and unable to work, leaving Anglin's mother as the sole source of financial support for the family. Money got tight for the family, which includes Anglin, a sister who was also in college and a younger brother in high school.

The financial aid director at Illinois College, Becky Birdsell, contacted her about funding from ACI. "When she contacted me, it was the emergency relief scholarship. It kind of caught me by surprise because I hadn't really told anybody about the situation that I had, except for a couple of professors. So, when I got it, I was like, 'this is good. This is definitely going to help,'" Anglin says. "That's how I paid for tuition. So, it was a huge help. A huge help."

Anglin says she appreciates those who donate funds to make scholarships like hers possible. "You never know the students' situation. By donating you're going to help maybe one, two or three students stay in school, come out with a degree and go into the workforce," she says.

In addition to her studies, Anglin is involved in Project LEAD, "Leaders in Education Advocating for Diversity," an Illinois College program that helps students from minority populations with an interest in K through 12 schools. She also works at the YMCA in Jacksonville in an after-school program, helping students with homework while gaining experience for a teaching career.