



Jequan Harrell
Millikin University
MD Designs Inc. Scholarship



Jequan Harrell wants to be in business for himself someday. Harrell, who grew up in Chicago and now lives in Blue Island, Illinois, wants to return home after college, and use his business management education to create opportunities for his family and for people in the community – possibly in vintage clothing, or sportswear and sports equipment.

Harrell is a senior at [Millikin University](#) in Decatur, Illinois. "I like the culture at Millikin. I have some fellow football teammates that went to Millikin, and they told me about the school, and they said it was a good school. It's a great school. It's a great school for business, too, one of the top schools for business. I want to start my own business, so that's what I came here for," Harrell says.

[Click to see Jequan tell his story](#)

"I've been living in Chicago all my life. I want to help Chicago, the inner city," he says. "A lot of kids like myself, they don't get a good opportunity to achieve stuff. They're not like football players, or they may be lost, you know. They end up doing violence and crime. I just want to help them and be able to create more jobs so I can help the youth."

Harrell is the recipient of an scholarship through ACI funded by MD Designs, Inc. The scholarship is especially helpful because Harrell's family isn't able to provide much financial support. He relies on scholarships and other financial aid to finance his education. "I use those scholarships to help with my book costs, my rent, stuff like that. It would be rough without it. I'm truly thankful for it. It really helped me pay off my financial aid," he says.

Among his other talents, Harrell is a skilled chess player and wants to start a chess club so he can teach the game to others. "It's a beautiful game. I love chess so much," he says.

Harrell also plays inside linebacker on the Millikin football team and is coming off a year in which he led the team in tackles. "Football has played a part in my life in many

ways since I was a kid. I started playing when I was in sixth grade," Harrell says. "If you're patient, and you just trust in God, here it really worked out. Just be patient, and have faith in God. Harrell, who attends church regularly, adds he is thankful for all that he had been able to achieve at Millikin.