



Chloe Hanegraaf
Olivet Nazarene University
PACCAR Foundation Scholarship



When Chloe Hanegraaf went to college, she set her sights on earning an associate's degree and a possible teaching career. But her life changed significantly after completing the degree at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Heights, Illinois. Her Christian background and friends led her to think about attending [Olivet Nazarene University](#) in Bourbonnais, Illinois, not far from her home. She applied, but declined to attend, only to reconsider a few months later when a university recruiter contacted her, asking if she wanted to remain under consideration for admission. This time, Hanegraaf said yes. She began a three-year journey, this time in a very different field – nursing.

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Her paternal grandmother was a nurse, and Hanegraaf liked the idea of working with people to help them get better and improve their health. Plus, as a nurse, she would be

helping to educate patients. But she knew getting there would be difficult. To enter the nursing program at Olivet Nazarene, Hanegraaf had to pass the entry level exam to get into the program. "I was required to take microbiology and chemistry. I had already taken my biology course. Those were hard classes. I definitely didn't think I would pass any of them, but by the grace of God, I did," she said. This semester, Hanegraaf is completing her capstone course at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, Illinois, where she has worked with Covid patients. She will graduate in December. After graduation, she is considering a career as a critical care nurse, and possibly, a travel nurse.

Hanegraaf was encouraged to apply for the PACCAR Foundation scholarship by Greg Bruner, Olivet Nazarene's financial aid director. "Without scholarship funds and the financial assistance that I receive, I would not be able to attend Olivet," she said. "Every single dollar counts for me. Whether it's a \$500 grant or maybe a thousand, \$300 ... It is honestly such a blessing to receive that. It has impacted my education. A donor's contribution has a very big effect, even though it's a small piece of the puzzle. I would hope to one day to be able to give back when I'm a nurse to people who are going to be studying nursing," she added.

Hanegraaf is grateful for the scholarships ACI provides to college students like her. "I love what you guys are doing, she said. " I think more students should know about it. There are so many opportunities to apply for scholarships and to work hard to earn your degree. It's hard, but there are amazing ways to help you out financially. I just want to say thank you for that. I'm very appreciative."

Hanegraaf is the eldest of five children, with four younger brothers. At Olivet Nazarene, she is president of the student nursing association, where she organizes events including blood donation drives and volunteers her time in nursing simulations. She is also part of a Bible study group, which explores how faith plays a role in nursing. She previously worked at a coffee shop during her time in community college and while she was at Olivet Nazarene.