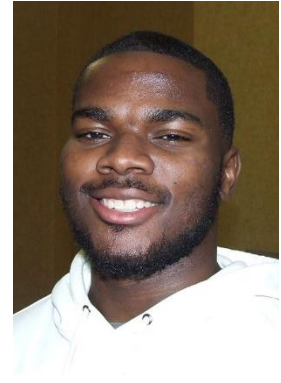




Associated Colleges of Illinois

Xavier Jobe
Dominican University
ACI Peer Mentoring Program

After graduating from Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, Illinois, Xavier Jobe expected to complete his bachelor's degree at another Chicago-area college. [Dominican University](#) in River Forest, Illinois, offered more scholarship support than other schools, and Jobe accepted its offer to attend – ironically, the same school his parents attended when it was known as Rosary College.



Now a junior biology major, Jobe is a mentor to incoming first-generation freshmen in ACI's Peer Mentoring Program at Dominican. Because of his interest in the Black Student Union and The Village, a leadership program at the university, Jobe was recommended as a mentor in the program. "I've been through a lot in life," he says. "I bring knowledge about how to pick yourself back up when you hit rock bottom, to be a better person and not disappoint the people around you -- because I did all that before."

[Click to see video!](#)



Since high school, Jobe says he has become a better person. "I'm more open, sharing my feelings and emotions. I pay attention more. I'm more understanding in situations, and I'm trying to just learn. Basically, that's the most important thing for me right now. Just learn and experience everything," he says.

Jobe says the Peer Mentoring Program has taught him a lot, experience he shares with mentees. It helps first-generation, low-income college students get through their first year in college and return to continue towards their degrees, Jobe says. "This is basically a gateway to help kids get through college and complete college. The mentoring program can help you open up the flood gates to know more and to know more people," he says.

As for himself, Jobe isn't certain what he'd like to do with this biology major, however, he is thinking about a career as an orthodontist, which means another year before graduation and up to three years of dental school. "Hopefully, I'll be able to open up my own practice afterwards. Right now, that's the main goal," he says.