

SPRING 2025



Your
IMPACT

NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

Beyond Numbers

Your Role in Student Success

Can you imagine the weight lifted when a financial hurdle, a sudden car repair, or an unexpected childcare cost no longer threatens to derail your dreams?

For the 48% of students at Northeast Iowa Community College who reported not knowing where to find \$500 in the case of an emergency, your support of Annual and Endowed Scholarships and the Student Support Fund has been a lifeline to success, lifting that weight from a student's shoulders.

This past fall, your gifts supported 27 students at NICC who felt financial relief thanks to the Student Support Fund. \$10,380 was awarded, with an average award of \$384.44. These funds have acted as a bridge, keeping students on track and focused on their education, especially those looking to graduate this May.

This vital support is only one of the ways your donations are making a difference. Your generosity also provided meaningful scholarship support to 392 out of 871 student applicants.

Across the NICC district, the demand for scholarship support is clear. With over \$325,000 in scholarship dollars awarded, students on average received \$833. For a student at NICC, these scholarships aren't just numbers; they represent the ability to purchase textbooks, cover tuition gaps and reduce the stress affecting academic progress.

Your gift has extended far beyond financial support for a student. Think of the single parent, returning student, or young adult navigating their first year – each represents a story that your support has helped write. It has ensured a student can stay enrolled, reach academic milestones, graduate and successfully enter our local workforce.

Thank you for empowering all types of learners to continue to achieve their dreams.

As graduation approaches, your generosity is felt as students walk across the stage and receive their diplomas.

Thank you for helping NICC students overcome obstacles, gain valuable skills and become future leaders and innovators in our local northeast Iowa communities.



Anna M. Berns
Executive Director of Advancement

Anna M. Berns

Stats WITH AN IMPACT

\$10,380

AWARDED BY STUDENT SUPPORT FUND (FALL)

27

STUDENTS AWARDED IN STUDENT SUPPORT FUND (FALL)

\$384.44

AVERAGE AWARD SIZE FOR STUDENT SUPPORT FUND (FALL)

1,072

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS RECEIVED (2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR)

413

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AWARDED (2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR)

2,484

STUDENTS ENROLLED

23

AVERAGE AGE STUDENT

1 IN 12

RESIDENTS SERVED ACROSS THE DISTRICT

BANK ON YOUR FUTURE

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Partners in Excellence Awards

This summer, Northeast Iowa Community College is excited to present the inaugural Building Brighter Futures Award to Fidelity Bank & Trust. Over the past few years, Fidelity Bank & Trust has consistently demonstrated its dedication to NICC students and local communities. They have not only provided crucial career opportunities through job postings and career fair participation, but they have also made a significant long-term investment with an endowed scholarship and flexible funding that will support students across the northeast Iowa region for years to come. As a part of their gift and long-term commitment, NICC and Fidelity Bank & Trust partnered to create a wall banner that features the many ways that the bank partners with the College.

As a trusted partner and donor, Fidelity's commitment to the College's mission and proactive approach to workforce development solidifies the company as a truly excellent partner. We are honored to celebrate their dedication to building a stronger workforce and future for northeast Iowa this upcoming June at the Partners in Excellence Awards at the NICC Town Clock Business Center in Dubuque.



Building Athletics at NICC

This summer marks a significant transition for the NICC Foundation's annual golf tournament and scholarship fundraiser. Previously managed by the NICC Foundation, this long-standing event is now transitioning under the direction of the newly developed Athletics Department. This evolution will allow you to directly impact student-athletes with scholarship funding and support.

The NICC Foundation and Athletic teams are excited to meet you on the greens this year and share how your continued support will impact current and future student-athletes at NICC. 100% of the tournament proceeds will support Athletic Scholarships and Athletic operations for student-athletes.

These premier events have been hosted annually by the Foundation since 1981 and helped raise much-needed funds for student scholarships. Through the support of area individuals and businesses, more than \$6.1 million has been invested in scholarships.

This fall, NICC is excited to launch new athletic teams including Men's Baseball, Women's Dance and Softball and Co-Ed Cross Country. The additional sports expand upon the College's thriving Co-ed Sports Shooting and Esports teams established in 2017 and 2024. Last fall, NICC student-athlete Mason Cigrand was named an Esports National Champion, a first for the College!

Thank you for the incredible legacy you have helped build. For decades, your generosity on the greens has fueled the dreams of countless students. Now, we're thrilled to invite you to join us as we tee off in support of NICC student-athletes. This year, every swing and putt will help student-athletes succeed in and out of the classroom. With your help, we're ready to make this year's tournament the most exciting yet!



Learn more about
NICC Athletics

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Calmar Golf Tournament
Oneota Golf & Country Club, Decorah
Thursday, May 22, 2025
▶ nicc.edu/calmagolf

Peosta Golf Tournament
Timberline Golf Course, Peosta
Friday, Sept. 5, 2025
▶ nicc.edu/peostagolf



Nick Weinmeister
Athletics Director

Q & A

Why did the Athletics Department decide to begin leading our annual Golf Tournament fundraisers?
The NICC Foundation presented our department with the opportunity to host the golf tournament and we felt it was a great chance to increase exposure within our communities and raise funds for athletic scholarships and projects.

In what ways will NICC student-athletes and the College benefit from the tournaments?
The tournaments will be a great opportunity to increase our athletic scholarship offerings for future student-athletes. Successful events with local community members and donors will allow for increased scholarship budgets to bring student-athletes to NICC. Increased budgets, thanks to donor support, will help raise the competitiveness level of the programs and help lessen the financial burden for families with students heading to college.

How will these donor-funded scholarships impact student-athletes at NICC?
The scholarships that you fund will support the entire department and each of our teams. Each athletic coach will see an increase in their respective scholarship budgets for the following year, thanks to your tournament participation. The coaches will determine which recruits could benefit from scholarship opportunities and allow us to be competitive with other colleges.

What are you looking forward to this year at the tournaments?
I am most excited about the opportunity for our athletic department staff and incoming student-athletes engaging with our community members at the tournaments. Our goal is to make the tournament a fun and enjoyable atmosphere so that everyone attending will want to return year after year. Our community members will help grow our department and make a big impact on athletic scholarship opportunities for our student-athletes now and in the future.

Investing in the Future Celebrating Our Past, Present and Promise

Since its founding in 1966, Northeast Iowa Community College has proudly watched our graduates achieve incredible success in their professions and make lasting impacts in their communities. This October, NICC will honor these exceptional individuals at our annual Hall of Fame induction ceremonies — an inspiring evening that highlights alumni achievements and the ongoing impact of NICC. This event offers the chance to celebrate Alumni success, hear from students whose lives have been transformed and see firsthand how NICC continues to strengthen our local communities.

Do you know an outstanding NICC graduate or retiree who deserves to be celebrated? We need your help to find and honor these remarkable individuals!

Thank you for your continued support in celebrating the people who make NICC extraordinary!



Barry and Kathy Bromberg



Learn More and
Submit a Nomination
▶ nicc.edu/halloffame

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Hall of Fame Ceremony
October 16, 2025 (Peosta)
October 23, 2025 (Calmar)

Mother-Daughter Duo Pursuing Nursing Degrees at Northeast Iowa Community College

Ever since a young age, Sydney Busch dreamed of working in medicine. Fast forward to 2025, Sydney is approaching her last semester in the Nursing program at NICC and values her education. Sydney has received a lot of support from faculty and staff and is grateful for the scholarships that she has received while attending.

“Nursing has more textbooks, more equipment, more lab kits, more fees than some other programs, and, with living outside of Iowa, the scholarships really help take off some of the financial burden. The financial stress can be a tipping point, whether you decide to go ahead with college or not. I am grateful for the opportunity to have the funding of a scholarship. Some might not realize the difference that it makes in other people's lives. It has allowed me to continue my education to go after my dream,” Sydney said.

Sydney's mother, Amy, is also enrolled in Nursing. Amy's return to school after 23 years was made possible, in part, by scholarships provided by generous donors. Amy shared, “Scholarships really help take off some of the financial burden from the extra fees on top of program costs, and also traveling from out-of-state. The scholarships have made a big difference in whether I moved forward or not because I was having guilt as a mother. Everything's so exciting for me to finally reach my goals. Finally, it's been 23 years. And I appreciate the opportunity and the support. I'm excited to move on and keep on with my career.”

Sydney will graduate in May 2025, and her mother, Amy, will graduate in December 2025.

“Scholarships really help take off some of the financial burden from the extra fees on top of program costs, and also traveling from out-of-state.”

Amy Busch



Have you ever watched a block of metal turn into a functional piece of equipment with just a few lines of code? Neither had Brandon, until he started at Northeast Iowa Community College last fall. Because of you, Brandon has been able to follow his dreams, learn valuable skills and find a good job in a local community.

Last year, Brandon, a current Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machinist Technician student, was looking for a fresh start. He chose NICC because it was close to home and was well-known for its technical programs. Like many students, he worried about how to balance school, work and family.

Your generosity has helped shape Brandon's success here at NICC. The multiple scholarships and financial aid he has received during his time at NICC allowed him to focus on his education without overwhelming financial stress.

Brandon's journey began at the NC3 National Career & Technical Education Letter of Intent Signing Day last April, where he met his future instructor and connected with other students pursuing technical careers. It was here that he also received his first scholarship, sponsored by a local business, to assist him with school-related expenses.

Initially, Brandon was nervous about starting at NICC. He felt like he had barely passed high school, and wasn't sure if college would be a good fit for him. Despite his fears, Brandon took a chance on the CNC program knowing that he enjoyed working on machines.

With your support, Brandon has thrived at NICC in and out of the classroom.

One of the biggest surprises for Brandon at NICC was making close friends in the CNC program and joining the Esports team. Brandon also emphasized, “Our instructor is really amazing. He goes above and beyond to help me and other students in the classroom with labs and projects.”

As Brandon is on track to graduate this summer, he is already considering his next steps. After connecting with a local employer at an NICC-sponsored job fair, he secured a part-time job with the company this semester and will transition into a full-time role after graduation this summer.

Your generosity has changed lives, strengthened the local workforce, and built a brighter future for our community. Thank you for supporting students like Brandon and giving them the chance to succeed.



**NORTHEAST IOWA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Advancement

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Great Give Day

May 21, 2025

*This year, your support will help
build a pathway to student success.*