

## Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship & Grant Programs

Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University assists the [Jack Kent Cooke Foundation \(JKC\)](#) in supporting its prestigious Young Scholars and College Scholarship Programs and in nurturing exceptional talent.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. By offering the largest scholarships in the country, comprehensive counseling and other support services to students from grade 7 to graduate school, the Foundation is dedicated to ensuring high-performing, low-income students have the support necessary to develop their talents and excel educationally.

In addition to its scholarship programs, the Foundation provides grants to organizations like Center for Talent Development for innovative, high-impact initiatives that benefit such students. By doing so, the Cooke Foundation seeks to use its resources to end the Excellence Gap, the disparity between the number of low and high-income students who reach the top levels of academic performance. Founded in 2000, the Cooke Foundation has awarded \$175 million in scholarships to 2,300 students and over \$97 million in grants.

## Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars

### Program

The Young Scholars Program, a selective five-year pre-college scholarship for high-performing middle school students with financial need, is the largest scholarship of its kind in the nation. It provides individualized academic advising, financial support, and a pathway to the foundation's \$40,000 per year College Scholarship. The Cooke Foundation assigns each Young Scholar an on-staff educational adviser who works closely with the student and his or her family to guide them and oversee the educational opportunities the Cooke Foundation provides throughout high school. The application period is open from January to March. Visit the Cooke Foundation's [Young Scholars page](#) for information on opportunities for students currently in grade 7.

## Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship Program

The College Scholarship Program is the largest undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend the nation's best four-year colleges and universities. College Scholars receive up to \$40,000 per year, college planning support, ongoing advising, the opportunity to network with the larger Cooke Scholar community, and a pathway to the foundation's \$50,000 per year Graduate Scholarship. The application period is open from September to November. Visit the Cooke Foundation's [College scholars page](#) for information on opportunities for students currently in grade 12.

If you have questions, please contact Tammie Stewart, CTD's community outreach manager. Stewart is happy to advise families and walk them through the application process. E-mail her at [tammie-stewart@northwestern.edu](mailto:tammie-stewart@northwestern.edu) or call 847/491-7127 to learn more.

## Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Outreach Grant

With generous financial support from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Center for Talent Development is working collaboratively with select schools in Chicago, Evanston, and other cities throughout the Midwest to meet the needs of high-achieving students with financial need. Students eligible for grant support have the opportunity to participate in above-grade-level testing and CTD summer, weekend, and online programs. Specifically, the grant helps CTD do the following:

- Offer [Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search \(NUMATS\)](#) fee waivers to qualified students in grades 3 through 7. NUMATS participation helps students, families, and school personnel better understand students' strengths, measure growth, and connect to opportunities through CTD and organizations like the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.
- Increase the number of low-income students who are served in advanced academic programs. Participation in enrichment and accelerated programming keeps students on a talent development trajectory and reduces the opportunity gap often experienced by students from low-income backgrounds.
- Build substantial, enduring connections among schools, families and CTD staff. CTD staff work closely with educators and administrators to identify students, conduct workshops for parents and educators, and assist families with program and scholarship applications.

You can learn more about the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation and our joint efforts to promote excellence and equity in a special edition of CTD's newsletter, [Talent](#).

[www.ctd.northwestern.edu](http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu)