

# Scholarships Impact Fund

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



WILLIAM & MARY

Now more than ever — as we navigate through the hardships that families are facing around the globe — scholarships have the power to transform lives.

The students you'll meet in this report offer a small glimpse into the thousands of unique stories about the profound impact of scholarship support throughout the W&M community.

Unrestricted, need-based scholarships are the university's highest priority. Gifts made to the **Scholarships Impact Fund** provide the university with the most flexibility to ensure your investment gets put to immediate use in support of our students' most pressing needs.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of William & Mary students.

[giving.wm.edu/scholarships](https://giving.wm.edu/scholarships)

# Savannah Wood '24

CHEMISTRY  
POWHATAN, VIRGINIA



Scholarships enable people to have opportunities they otherwise never would have had. You get to see the impact of your donation on individuals and how it shapes their lives. **I am that impact, and I can't thank you enough.**

Growing up in a small town, Savannah always dreamed of following in her father's and grandmother's footsteps by working in the medical field. **Thanks to generous scholarship support, she is a first-generation college student determined to give back.**



# Savannah's Story

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“When I was applying to schools, cost was a big thing,” says Savannah. “Even as a public school, William & Mary was still a bit pricey for me. As a first-generation student, my parents can’t help financially as much as other students’ families I know. I worked hard to earn scholarships — now I can focus more on my studies rather than being anxious about the future.”

**Savannah has set her sights on medical school or a master’s program in the medical field after W&M. “Caring for others is something I have always wanted to do,” she says.**

“My grandma was a nurse, and she was a role model for me growing up. She was someone who always took care of people. My father is a med-flight pilot, and I’ve been able to go with him to his job and work with flight nurses to learn directly from them.”

Savannah says the impact of the pandemic was hard on her but that the isolation challenged her to branch out and form deeper connections. She found it hard to talk to people in the past, but she pushed herself by

helping other people, and hopes to continue that mission as a camp counselor this summer.

“Camp Piankatank has a program for children whose families have been affected by cancer. My grandpa had esophageal cancer and thankfully is in remission, but I know how hard it can be on young kids.”

For Savannah, belonging and caring underscore everything she has done at W&M. She is involved in both chemistry research and the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, experiences that have enabled her to flourish and allowed her motivation to grow. That’s why she says she is determined to give back.

**“Scholarships have helped me connect with new people, increased my opportunities and broadened my future career paths.** I plan on giving back because of all I have gotten so far out of my time here and all I have yet to experience. Everyone deserves that chance.”

Undergraduates have received more than

**\$70.6 Million**

in privately funded scholarships since the beginning of the  
*For the Bold* campaign, which concluded in July 2020.

**113**

STUDENTS RECEIVED SUPPORT  
FROM THE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT  
FUND IN THE 2020-2021  
ACADEMIC YEAR

MORE THAN

**\$400,000**

WAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE  
SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT FUND  
IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

**8%**

OF W&M'S ANNUAL BUDGET  
GOES TO FINANCIAL AID

A portrait of Daniela Pereira Flores '24, a young woman with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a black blazer over a dark top and a thin necklace. The background is a dark, neutral color.

# Daniela Pereira Flores '24

BUSINESS ANALYTICS  
CENTREVILLE, VIRGINIA

“

As a Latina who immigrated to the United States, I have faced a lot of obstacles, but financial ones are the hardest. Thanks to you, some of the weight is lifted off my shoulders. **I am now one step closer to becoming the lawyer that I've always aspired to be —you are part of my journey and success.** You genuinely make a difference — **hopefully, one day, I can too.**”

10%

OF CURRENT W&M STUDENTS WILL  
BE THE FIRST IN THEIR FAMILY TO  
OBTAIN A COLLEGE DEGREE

# Scholarships Impact Fund

BY THE NUMBERS

DONORS

1,632

TOTAL DONORS IN FY21

\$50

MEDIAN GIFT GIVEN

RECIPIENTS

83%

STUDENTS ENROLLED  
AS FRESHMEN

\$5,000

MEDIAN AWARD GIVEN  
TO EACH RECIPIENT

23%

FIRST-GENERATION  
COLLEGE STUDENTS

46%

RANKED IN THE TOP 10%  
OF THEIR CLASS

12%

PELL GRANT ELIGIBLE  
STUDENTS

3.95

AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL  
GPA OF ENROLLED  
FRESHMEN

# Zachary Price '22

GEOLOGY  
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

“

**Thanks to the Scholarships Impact Fund, I will be able to achieve my academic goals** and complete my senior research this spring semester. Private support also afforded me the opportunity to take part in a geology field trip to Texas over winter break to experience a hands-on learning opportunity in my field. **Scholarships have enabled me to pursue the education that I am passionate about.**”



THANKS TO PRIVATE GIVING  
MORE THAN

830

STUDENTS RECEIVED  
SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT  
LAST YEAR





### Yaw Ofori-Addae '21

attributes his post-graduation success to his connections at W&M and the research experience scholarships provided.

“At the firm where I work now, there is a huge W&M presence. Every time you tell someone you are from William & Mary, there’s a one-in-five chance they are too,” says Yaw, who is a software engineer at Booz Allen Hamilton, a management and information technology firm headquartered in McLean, Virginia. “My experience at W&M was instrumental in helping me with my career — it exposed me to new ideas, diverse opinions, varied issues and thoughtful discussion.”

From the start of his freshman year, Yaw enjoyed his discussion-based freshman seminar, “Ethics in Data Science,” and the diversity of thought it fostered. “It was a launching point for my career,” says Yaw, a native of Ghana who went to high school in Woodbridge, Virginia.

**“My professors gave me great experience and advice during my time at W&M, and my advisor was a remarkable help both academically and as I navigated the job market.** I was able to work in his research lab, where I gained a great amount of experience.” Yaw then leveraged this hands-on research experience to participate in the CMD-IT/ACM Richard Tapia Conference, a leading venue celebrating and promoting diversity in computing.

One of his most significant motivating factors for coming to William & Mary was the scholarships he received.

**“My scholarships helped me focus on academic achievement, helped me not worry as much about debt and helped ease my dad’s worries too.** He wanted me to go to George Mason University to cut costs, but the financial aid package allowed me to come to William & Mary, and that has led me to where I am today.”

Yaw emphasized that were it not for scholarships, many students would not be able to attend W&M due to financial stress.

“I am hugely thankful to everyone who has given and continues to give — the funds go a long way for those who need assistance. Your gifts give students a chance at a brighter future, allowing them to focus on what’s most important — learning.”

“Our nation needs more scholarships,” Yaw continued. “We all want a brighter and more educated America, and your donations help achieve that. It allows future students to come to W&M, excel and then be able to say with pride that they are members of the Tribe.”

A portrait of Brianna Gettier '22, a young woman with short, dark, wavy hair, wearing a dark green button-down shirt. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is dark grey.

1363

AVERAGE SAT SCORE  
OF ENROLLING FRESHMAN  
SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT FUND  
RECIPIENTS

## Brianna Gettier '22

ART HISTORY  
WAVERLY, VIRGINIA



With a younger sister at home, I worried I'd have to take a semester or year off from college to help support my family through the pandemic.

**Because of this scholarship, I was able to continue my schooling. I can now obtain my degree on time,** work at Swem Special Collections and lead the Art History Association. **This scholarship has allowed me to truly experience my senior year."**

# Affording Opportunity

37%

OF W&M UNDERGRADUATES  
RECEIVE NEED-BASED AID

W&M HAS RAISED  
AN ADDITIONAL

\$30M

FOR SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE THE  
CONCLUSION OF THE  
*FOR THE BOLD* CAMPAIGN

23%

INCREASE IN APPLICATIONS  
TO W&M IN 2021

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According to the Princeton Review, in 2021 William & Mary ranked nationally:

#12

BEST VALUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#14

BEST PUBLIC COLLEGES FOR  
CAREER PLACEMENT

#16

TOP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
FOR ALUMNI NETWORKS

# Please help us create more incredible stories of lives forever changed through scholarship support.

Gifts of all sizes to the Scholarships Impact Fund are welcome and all donors will receive special updates on student recipients, including an annual Scholarships Impact Fund report highlighting the progress of our fundraising efforts.

Donors who have given \$2,000 or more to the Scholarships Impact Fund will be invited to meet some of William & Mary's remarkable scholarship recipients at virtual and in-person events throughout the year.

For more information about scholarships, please contact: **Suzie Armstrong**, Executive Director of Development for Scholarships and Special Projects, [smarmstrong@wm.edu](mailto:smarmstrong@wm.edu).

WILLIAM & MARY

[giving.wm.edu/scholarships](https://giving.wm.edu/scholarships)