



Mayra Rios '20, Juan Sanchez '20 and Cynthia Ramos '20

The Dunham Fund of Aurora was established in 1996 to honor the legacy of John C. Dunham, who graduated from West Aurora High School and attended North Central College. He had a dream of "making the world a more comfortable, safer place for mankind to live and prosper." Widely known and highly respected as a champion of enterprise and education, Dunham conceived the philanthropic direction for the Dunham Fund, which is to support organizations that are engaged in providing education and assisting individuals from the greater Aurora area.

Visit [dunhamfund.org](http://dunhamfund.org) for more information about the Dunham Fund.



"I am extremely thankful and honored to be one of the recipients of the Dunham Fund Scholarship. I aspire to become a teacher in Aurora because being a teacher will allow me to give back to my community. Representation in the classroom matters, and as a teacher, I have the opportunity to positively impact the lives of many students and be a role model for students, particularly in Aurora, where I can make my students feel represented in the classroom."

**Arabia Patino '20**  
French, Secondary Education  
Aurora, Ill.

# North Central College AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1861, North Central College is an independent, coeducational, comprehensive college of the liberal arts and sciences offering more than 60 undergraduate majors and 12 graduate degrees. North Central College is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and is ranked among:

- 2019 "Best Regional Universities," "Best Undergraduate Teaching Programs" and "Best Value Schools" in the Midwest (U.S. News & World Report)
- 2019 "Best Regional Colleges" (Princeton Review)
- 2018 "America's Top Colleges" (Forbes)
- 2018 "Best Colleges for Your Money" (Money)

The College has also been designated as a:

- "Changemaker Campus" for social innovation by Ashoka U
- Grand Silver Excellence Award and Gold Excellence Award winner by NASPA for the College's Cardinal First program
- Level 1 Accredited Arboretum by ArbNet

**For more information about the Dunham Education Scholars program, contact Julie Carballo, Director of First Generation Programs**

630-637-5155

[jmcarballo@noctrl.edu](mailto:jmcarballo@noctrl.edu)

To apply for the Dunham Scholarship visit [northcentralcollege.edu/dunham-scholars](http://northcentralcollege.edu/dunham-scholars)

 @DunhamScholars  ncdunhamscholars



**NORTH CENTRAL  
COLLEGE 1861**

Dunham Fund Education Scholarship

Abel Sanchez '14  
High School Spanish Teacher



**NORTH CENTRAL  
COLLEGE 1861**



# What is the Dunham Education Scholars Program?

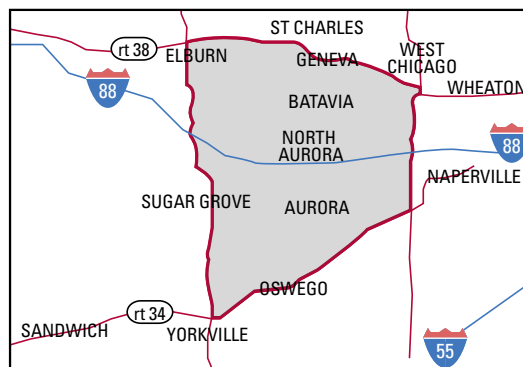
With generous support from the Dunham Fund, North Central College established the Dunham Education Scholars program for students from the greater Aurora area with a declared major in education and a commitment to return to the Aurora area as dedicated teachers. The program provides a \$25,000 scholarship, mentoring, networking and field experiences in Aurora schools—all designed to launch our Dunham Scholars into a successful teaching career in the Aurora area.

## Who is eligible for the Dunham Education Scholarship?

Eligibility criteria for scholarship candidates includes:

- Residency within the Dunham Fund service area (bounded on the north by Illinois State Route 38, on the south by U.S. Route 34, on the east by Illinois State Route 59 and on the west by Illinois State Route 47)
- Intent to major in education and commitment to teach in the Aurora area after graduation
- Minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.0
- Preferred SAT score of 1000 or higher

### DUNHAM FUND SERVICE AREA



“As an Aurora resident, it was an honor and privilege to be awarded the Dunham Scholarship. This scholarship allowed me to complete my dream of becoming an educator in my hometown. As a Dunham Scholar and North Central College alumna I’ve been fortunate to have the opportunity to give back to my community as a teacher. It’s been a great honor to be a part of the Dunham Scholarship tradition and East Aurora School District 131.”

**Courtney Blake '12 Phelps**  
Teacher, Rollins Elementary School  
Aurora, Ill.



“The Dunham Scholars program has been one of the most enriching programs I’ve come upon at North Central College. It has provided very generous financial aid that has allowed me to focus my time and energy on supplemental material that will further my skills in teaching. To be able to give back to the community I love is amazing; to be rewarded for it is something special.”

**Juan Sanchez '20**  
Music Education  
Aurora, Ill.

“Being a Dunham Scholar alleviates many of my worries pertaining to money and allows me to not spend all of my time working. It provides me with resources that help me through the education program and ultimately make me a better teacher. I have had many teachers in District 129 who made a difference in my life, encouraging me to learn and be the best version of myself. I want to give back to my community and inspire students to believe in themselves.”



**Elizabeth Sherwood '20**  
Elementary Education  
Aurora, Ill.



“I am confident that I am making a difference in someone’s life and I owe it to the many opportunities I received as an undergraduate at North Central.”

**Guadalupe Escobedo '14**  
Teacher, Hunt Club Elementary School  
Oswego, Ill.

“I am incredibly grateful for all the opportunities given to me through the Dunham Scholarship. I especially love how I get experience in the Aurora schools I grew up attending, and giving back to the community is one of the greatest rewards. Along with that, the program has so many passionate and driven individuals who I’ve been lucky to know and work with.”

**Mayra Rios '20**  
English, Secondary Education  
Aurora, Ill.



## Benefits of being a Dunham Education Scholar:

- An annual scholarship award of \$5,000 for first-year and sophomore students and up to \$7,500 for juniors and seniors
- Additional scholarship funds for students interested in pursuing a bilingual endorsement
- Reimbursement of state-mandated test fees for education majors
- Individualized guidance from the program coordinator and peer support group
- Access to a North Central College alumni mentor who is a professional educator in Aurora
- Regular professional and personal development workshops with expert speakers on topics like loan forgiveness for teachers, organization and planning, résumé development, technology, networking, interviewing and time management
- Opportunities to attend professional conferences
- \$1,000 stipend for classroom materials as a first-year teacher at a school within the Dunham Fund service area