Honoring Generosity
Empowering Achievement

NPC Friends & Family July 2026 Newsletter



"In my travels all over the world, I have come to realize that what distinguishes one [person] from another is not ability but access. Access to education, access to opportunity, access to love."
~ Lauren Hill



Jesse Reeck
Executive Director

Access and Opportunity are two of my core values when it comes to education (and all of life, for that matter). Love is up there, too. 🙂 And I love that NPC Friends & Family is fundamentally committed to these values. We are continually striving to make support for students at NPC more accessible.

To that end, all of our scholarships are now housed on a single, user-friendly application platform: AwardSpring. Our reviewers can log on to view and score applications, and Karen Zimmerman and I can process everything we need to complete the awards right there, too.

One of my favorite features of AwardSpring is the Donor Profiles Page. We have such incredible donors whom I'm proud to recognize, and many of our scholarships are named in honor of remarkable community and educational leaders. Now when students are selected for a "Jon Graff" or "Pres Winslow" memorial scholarship, they are easily able to learn a bit more about the person honored in the award.

I encourage you to visit the Donor Profile Pages and learn more about our donors and honorees yourself at https://npc.awardspring.com/AS/donor/dashboard or by scanning this code.



2026 Surgical Technology Grads

Stories of Impact

Here are excerpts from thank-you letters of recent scholarship recipients, highlighting the transformational power of these awards:



AnnMarie Hill, Jennifer Lee Witt Memorial Scholar
www.npc.edu/AnnMarieHill
"I am a college student pursuing creative writing, facing challenges as a first-generation college student from the White Mountain Apache Tribe. This scholarship supports my journey and growth, helping me to remain resourceful, hardworking, and persistent."



Alexa Questas-Quezada, Golden Eagle Scholarship in Honor of Frank Lucero
www.npc.edu/Alexa-Questas-Quezada
“It is a privilege to receive an award that carries the legacy of a man known for his service, leadership, and dedication to his community. Learning about Mr. Lucero’s life and the impact he made inspires me to work hard and give back in meaningful ways. I was born and raised in Holbrook, Arizona, and I am proud to be a first-generation college student. I am currently pursuing my bachelor’s degree in business at Northland Pioneer College.”

Expanding Support

Over the past year, we’ve asked for more support to be better able to serve our students, and we are deeply grateful for the ways in which you’ve so generously responded. Every application cycle we receive more applications than ever before -and every award cycle we’ve been able to provide more scholarships than ever before. Thank you!

This upcoming 26-27 school year, we are particularly excited to offer three new scholarship initiatives to better support NPC students: the Kickstart Scholarship, two new Capstone Scholarships, and expanded Transportation Grants.



The Kickstart Scholarship is a $500 award for students who are new to NPC between semesters. Our general application for fall closes in mid-April, but community colleges serve many students who may not know in April that they will be ready to enroll in August. This award offers a “kickstart” to these new students to welcome them to NPC and to the NPC Friends & Family community of support.

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Expanding Support Continued...

Expanded Transportation Grants will increase the number of students we are able to assist with funds to travel to in-person classes. Our service area is so large and so remote, and not every program can be offered at each of our nine locations. Transportation Grants support students traveling long distances to attend in-person science labs or hands-on career and technical education courses.

Capstone Scholarships will support students in the final intensive semesters of both our Surgical Technician and Elementary Education programs. Surg Tech students complete two semesters of clinical rotations, and their final semester requires 490 hours of logged case time. Many Elementary Education students will complete a traditional student teaching semester to close out their program. Some of the students in both programs will have to quit the jobs that have been sustaining them through school to meet these training requirements, and the Capstone Scholarships, provided by general NPCFF funds for Surgical Technology and by an amazing individual donor for Education programs, will help offset that lost income.

Powering New Initiatives



The largest and most significant way NPCFF supports students is always through the awarding of scholarships to help cover tuition, fees, books, and other educational expenses. But that's not all we do! NPCFF also offers transportation grants to help students get to class, pays placement testing and GED exam fees, and provides assistance through our Emergency Fund to help students facing an unexpected crisis.

For several years, NPCFF has also housed a "Mini-Grant" Fund, encouraging students, faculty, and staff at NPC to apply for financial support for new student-supporting initiatives. Funded projects have come from a variety of individuals with a range of impacts, a few of which we are excited to highlight for you here:

GED Travel - Not only do the test fees for GED exams add up, but there are also only two testing locations across the 21,000 square miles of Navajo and Apache Counties. Many students must travel long distances to reach a test site, and with gas prices soaring, this can be an insurmountable obstacle. College & Career Preparation Success Coach Nichole Hendricks applied to NPCFF for a mini-grant to support these students, and NPCFF has now helped remove another obstacle from the path to completing a High School Equivalency.

Student Success & Outreach – NPC recently established a new department: Student Success & Outreach. Directors Tonya Thacker and Rickey Jackson applied for a mini-grant to support three of their new initiatives: a service-learning river-cleanup project, in-person orientation sessions for new students at NPC, and a series of brown-bag lectures on student success. All three of these initiatives will promote student engagement and success, with a special focus on first-generation college students.

Environmental Learning Community Camp Out – Dylan Steigmeier, one of the instructors in NPC's Environmental Learning Community, requested funding for a camp out at Canyon De Chelly on the Navajo Nation. The NPCFF mini-grant will enable students to participate in land-based learning, a local service project, and exploration of one of the most beautiful, culturally rich sites in Arizona.

Make a Difference – Donate Today!

NPC students are succeeding despite the odds. Many are the first generation in their familiesto attendcollege.Many are comingback to school while juggling the responsibilities of work, school, and caring for children or elderly parents. Most have incredible financial need, and they succeed because of the scholarships made possible, and sustained, by generous people like you!

YES! I want to donate to NPC Friends & Family and help support NPC student scholarships.

Donations can be made online via credit/debit card at to www.npc.edu/npcfriendsfamily by clicking the "Donate" button. Or donate by check or money order payable to NPC Friends & Family and mailed to NPC Friends & Family, 1611 S Main Street, Snowflake, AZ 85937.

THANK YOU!

Please add my gift of $ _____ to the following:

- ☐ **General/Eagle Fund** –Unrestricted scholarships for students in greatest financial need
- ☐ **Golden Eagle Fund** - Give in honor of a loved one or personal cause: _____
- ☐ **Charles E. Lisitzky Memorial Scholarship**–For Native American students
- ☐ **Claude Millet Endfield Early ChildhoodDevelopmentScholarship**–For degree-seeking students in the ECD program
- ☐ **Gene Schaechterle Memorial Scholarship**–For students in CTE programs
- ☐ **Jennifer Lee Witt Memorial Scholarship**–For degree-seeking students
- ☐ **Jon Graff, Ph.D., Fund** –For NPC students who are university bound, career bound, or college-bound
- ☐ **Little Kindness Memorial Scholarship**–For second year nursing students going into pediatric care
- ☐ **Martia and Louis Smith MemorialArtScholarship**–For full-time, degree-seeking students with a passion for art
- ☐ **Martin Lucas Memorial Scholarship**-For students impacted by disability
- ☐ **Mary Kay Smith Lindy ScholarshipforNativeAmericanNursingStudents**
- ☐ **Newman Family Memorial Scholarship**–For degree-seeking students on the I-40 corridor
- ☐ **Pres Winslow Memorial Scholarship**–For high school graduates enrolled at NPC
- ☐ **Taking Flight Scholarship in MemoryofDr.EricB.Henderson**– For NPC graduates going on to a university
- ☐ **Therapeutic Massage Program Scholarship**–For enrolled therapeutic massage students
- ☐ **U.S. Military Veterans Scholarship**–For veterans, their spouses and their dependents
- ☐ **White Mountain Fallen FirefightersMemorialScholarship**–For students in Fire Science and Paramedicine (EMT)

What your donation looks like as tuition:

$75 – Provides one credit of tuition for residents of Navajo County
$225 – Provides tuition for one three-credit class
$450 – Provides tuition for one student to attend half-time
$900 – Provides tuition for one student to attend full-time

Scan to Donate:

NPC Friends & Family

Thank you *for your continued support and donation.*

Learn more about NPC Friends and Family and give at www.npc.edu/npcfriendsfamily

Mail donations to: 1611 South Main St Snowflake, AZ 85937

NPC Friends and Family is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations may be used for tax purposes.