



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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College of Eastern Idaho Graduate Awarded Prestigious Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, Attending Stanford this Fall



Recent College of Eastern Idaho graduate Gabe Clark is one of 60 students nationwide to be awarded the 2023 Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. (Photo credit: College of Eastern Idaho)

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — College of Eastern Idaho (CEI) is excited to announce that Gabe Clark has been selected as [one of 60, nation-wide, high-achieving community college students to receive the prestigious Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship](#). Clark, who graduated from CEI earlier this month with his associate of arts degree, will use the award to study political science at Stanford University this fall. The highly competitive national scholarship from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation aims for Scholars to complete their undergraduate educations with as little debt as possible. The scholarship, which is to be used for last dollar funding” after all institutional aid has been exhausted, pays for up to \$55,000 in educational expenses per year.

This year, more than 1,700 students from 448 community colleges applied to receive the [Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship](#). The Foundation evaluated each submission based on students’ academic ability and achievement, financial need, persistence, and leadership. Clark, who served on CEI’s Student Senate, as a CEI Student Ambassador, and helped found the College’s debate team, among other activities, is the first student from Idaho to receive this significant award.

“There are so many bright and persistent community college students in our nation who we know will thrive at four-year institutions if they can find a way to transfer without being weighed down by a heavy financial burden,” said Seppy Basili, executive director of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. “We are excited to welcome yet another cohort of Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholars to our community after learning about them through their applications and seeing their unbound potential.

Along with financial support, new Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholars will receive comprehensive educational advising to guide them through the process of transitioning to a four-year college and preparing for their careers. Scholars will additionally receive opportunities for internships, study abroad, and graduate school funding, as well as connection to a thriving network of more than 3,000 Cooke Scholars and Alumni.

“Gabe has been an extraordinary student at CEI, significantly contributed to the College and our student body, and I applaud the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation for recognizing his achievements to-date and future potential,” said CEI President Rick Aman. “I have every confidence that Gabe will continue to shine as he completes his educational goals at Stanford and beyond.”

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About College of Eastern Idaho

College of Eastern Idaho (CEI, formerly EITC), Idaho's newest comprehensive community college, offers associate degrees, technical certificates, and workforce training programs to help students achieve their educational and career goals. With a focus on affordability, accessibility, and student success, CEI is dedicated to providing high-quality education and training to the residents of eastern Idaho. Visit <https://cei.edu> for more information.

About the Cook Foundation

The Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded \$250 million in scholarships to nearly 3,200 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive counseling and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$125 million in grants to organizations that serve such students. Visit www.jkcf.org for more information.