



## STUDENT EMPOWERMENT AND SUPPORT

We believe that an apprenticeship, a certification program, a community college degree, or a degree from a four year college provides the best chance for students to end generational poverty for themselves and their families. Through mentorship, financial support, and volunteers with targeted areas of expertise, Iowa LEAP strives to help students become financially stable and successful in their chosen career paths.



Each spring bright, articulate, optimistic students leave elementary school with lofty aspirations and goals. They have dreams of becoming immigration lawyers, orthopedic surgeons and authors. But for some students as they grow older - especially students who would be the first in their family to attend college - these hopes for a bright future can start to fade. College can seem out of reach both academically and financially. Navigating college requirements and the application process can be complicated for everyone - especially families who have never done it before. Iowa LEAP is committed to helping support and guide students through their teen years to make the dream of college a reality.



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THERE IS NO COST FOR OUR SERVICES TO FAMILIES!

Iowa Leap is a non-profit organization. We receive grants and work with volunteers to do our work.



## IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

*“Right now I am working in retail. That’s okay but it is not where my heart is. I started doing make-up for my friends and found that I love the feeling of helping someone look like their most beautiful self. I have completed the financial aid forms to go to school to become a licensed esthetician. I just started a new job and am saving money for the application fee to school.”*

Erika, HS Class 2020  
Future Esthetician & Salon Owner

*“It breaks my heart seeing people having a tough time getting legal and honest help. If I have the opportunity to continue my education and eventually to law school, I hope I can provide my community with honest and affordable legal help. If I receive a scholarship, I want you to know that helping me will empower me to help others.”*

Wendy, HS Class of 2018  
Future Immigration Attorney

*“I see people who make a lot of money and they know how to invest their money. They know how to invest it for the future. I want to understand how to do that and to help advise other people.”*

Beatriz, HS Class of 2018  
Future Financial Planner

*“I am working doing prep work in a restaurant kitchen. My goal is to someday become a patrol officer and work my way up to police detective. It helps people feel safe when they see police officers who look like them and can speak Spanish. I want to be a role model for other girls.”*

Jackie, HS Class of 2020  
Future Police Detective

## OUR MISSION

We will empower and support students to overcome obstacles that stand between them and their future dreams for college and a career

## OUR VISION

We will ensure that all students - particularly those who would be the first in their families to attend college - have access to higher education, job opportunities, and upward social mobility.

## OUR VALUES

- Diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility to educational opportunities
- Student support and success
- Community
- Relationships

## OUR WORK

- Mentoring students beginning in 6th grade and continuing through college
- Tutoring in academics and executive skills functions (organization, time management, etc)
- Guiding students through the college application process including career counseling, identifying potential colleges, facilitating campus visits, the college application and financial aid processes.
- Exploring and applying for public and private scholarships
- Awarding scholarships



- Ongoing support during the transition between high school graduation and college
- Establishing cohort groups to provide support during high school and beyond
- Assisting with choosing which classes to take
- Help with registering at a new school
- Go with parents to IEP meetings and parent-teacher conferences
- Monitoring grades and making sure assignments are getting turned in
- Matching students with job mentors