



Chevron scholarship recipient Dominique Molina (back row, left) with her 2nd grade class at Colfax Elementary School in Denver Public Schools

Chevron Scholarships Help CUE Students Become Teachers

[Chevron](#), an international energy company, invests a portion of its profits in organizations and programs that benefit people and the environment. They give to communities all over the world in areas near where they operate. The company's giving program focuses on K-12 education; higher education; workforce development; food and security; housing; economic development; physical and mental health; the environment; arts and culture; and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Cary Baird is a Community Engagement and Social Investment Advisor for Chevron's [Rockies Business Unit](#). She helps build partnerships with organizations on the Western Slope and in Denver and northern Colorado. "We look for partners we can build long-term relationships with so that we can work together for greater impact," said Baird. Currently, her unit is working with around 175 partners, one of which is the [University of Northern Colorado](#).



Members of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Fellows Program at UNC, which is sponsored by Chevron

How Chevron Works with UNC

“Education is one of our top priorities,” Baird said. In fact, 43% of her unit’s budget went to educational institutions and nonprofit organizations last year. For about two years, Chevron has supported students attending UNC’s [Center for Urban Education](#) (CUE) teacher preparation program by funding need-based scholarships for teacher candidates.

“CUE is an important asset because it produces teachers who can meet the needs of Denver-area schools,” said Baird. She noted that the Lowry campus is responsive to its students’ needs and partners with area school districts to support deeper student learning. “Teachers are the most important factor in student success,” said Baird. “We’re honored to support CUE’s efforts to get well-trained, diverse teachers into urban schools.”

Rosanne Fulton, the director of CUE, said, “We are so grateful to Chevron for their support. In the last two years, we’ve been able to give substantial financial support to eight of our teacher candidates. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Cary and Chevron long term.”



Chevron scholarship recipient Katia Gorgone (right) with a student

How Chevron Scholarship Recipients Help CUE Teacher Candidates

Katia Gorgone

Katia Gorgone is one of the CUE teacher candidates who received a Chevron scholarship. Like most CUE students, she works as a paraprofessional in the morning and attends classes in the afternoon. She works with preschoolers at [Cherry Hills Village Elementary School](#) in the Cherry Creek School District.

"I want to express my deepest gratitude for the generous scholarship Chevron awarded me," said Gorgone. "Your support means more to me than words can express. Receiving this scholarship not only alleviates financial burdens, it reaffirms my belief in the power of education. With your help, I can pursue my academic goals with determination and focus."

"Your investment in my future fills me with immense gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose," she added. "I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and using my education to make a positive impact on my community and beyond. Your belief in my potential inspires me to strive for excellence in all that I do. Once again, thank you for your generosity and belief in me. Your support has made a significant difference in my life, and I will always be grateful for your kindness."



Chevron scholarship recipient Araceli Garcia

Araceli Garcia

Araceli Garcia is another Chevron scholarship recipient. She is currently a senior at CUE and works with grades PK–8 as a substitute teacher at [Aurora Frontier P-8](#) in Aurora Public Schools. She is also the school's Family Liaison.

"It is an honor to receive the Chevron scholarship," said Garcia. "It has given me some peace of mind when it comes to my finances. Thank you for allowing me to pursue my dream of becoming a primary school teacher. Your generosity has allowed me to continue attending classes at the Center of Urban Education. I hope to one day give back to our community to honor how Chevron has helped me."

Dominique Molina

Dominique Molina (pictured at the top of the newsletter) also received a Chevron scholarship this year. She is a junior at CUE and works as a one-on-one special education paraprofessional in a second-grade classroom at [Colfax Elementary School](#) in Denver Public Schools.

"The Chevron scholarship has helped make it possible for me to continue to attend UNC," said Molina. "I want to say a big thank you and express how much I appreciate the opportunity. I would not be where I am today or as successful as I am without your help."

Chevron also awarded scholarships to students in the [Cumbres teacher preparation program](#) at UNC, and last year the company funded the [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion \(DEI\) Fellows program](#) to support UNC's DEI goals.

Thinking about Becoming a Teacher?

We are enrolling new students for the spring 2024 semester. Call Dr. Rosanne Fulton, Director, UNC Center for Urban Education, at 303-637-4334 or [email](#) for more information. Watch our [short video](#) to learn more about the CUE teacher-preparation program.