



## Daniels Fund Enables Adult Learners to Complete Undergraduate Degrees

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The problem being confronted:

All too often, adult learners find that their paths to completing an undergraduate degree become stalled. Many factors, such as job relocation, family emergencies, and extra work responsibilities can slow an adult's progress. Importantly, the cost of higher education and the availability of funds to pay for education become barriers for the adult. Federal financial aid through loans is of considerable help as are employer tuition subsidies. But for many students, financial concerns remain paramount, and many are at the maximum level of their student loan allotment. One Denver-based organization, The Daniels Fund, provides grant funding to institutions who select adult learners to receive scholarship assistance so they can complete their undergraduate degrees. The Daniels Fund is one of the only foundations/granting agencies that places a priority on adult learners who seek an undergraduate education.

Short summary:

Regis University has now received five Daniels Opportunity or Boundless Opportunity Scholarship grants. Scholarships of up to \$5000 have enabled students to complete their undergraduate degrees and either pursue professional opportunities or graduate school. As of our data on December 12, 2012, among the 73 recipients of the Daniels Grant within the last five grant periods, 53 or 72.6% have graduated. This compares very favorably to the national graduation rate for adult learners of 42-54%. The Scholarships confirm that financial assistance, most importantly in the form of grants, may be crucial to supporting the completion of education for adults.

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