

How the Union Helped my Family

My father has been a part of the Union for about thirty years. That means he has been able to have the opportunity to become financially stable since even before I came into the world because of this job. With this job from the Union, he has been able to pay for both mine and my sister's catholic school education from preschool all the way up to 12th grade. Now he is having to pay for my college tuition, with this being the end to my senior year of high school. My family never realized how fast schools wanted their money for tuition, books, room and board, etc. This has become a bit of a struggle recently and made money more tight in the household, especially because as a senior I am applying for the SAT, ACT, AP, and IB testing for school. All of these tests cost extra money. Not only do they require money, but they also demand time and effort, which my family plans their life around. I am a student at John Adams High School . It is a public school with many talented kids and in order to stand out you have to try to participate in as many extracurriculars as possible, such as volunteering, National honors society, sports, and different cultural clubs. With having to participate in so many extra curriculums this does mean added costs, which do unfortunately make it so much more expensive for my education that my dad has to contribute to.

If I was able to receive this scholarship it would help my family feel a little bit at ease because any amount of money helps whether it be small or large, as long as it contributes to my education somehow so I can finish pursuing my undergraduate degree in radiation therapy. As a family, we have been able to take countless vacations and be thoroughly taken care of medically throughout the years because of my dad's benefits, vacation days, and just simply by him being able to save the money he makes from working at I/N Kote. Without the Union in my family's life, I would not have been able to have the things I have today and the education I have

received throughout my life so far. The Union has been able to allow my father to pay for my education ever since I was three and allow me to be debt free, which is not a common thing for students as they graduate college. I am beyond grateful that my dad is a part of United SteelWorkers. Without the Union, I don't know where my family would stand financially and emotionally. Like my dad says; "I don't want to end my career in debt and start yours in debt." If I was to receive this scholarship, I will have a better chance at being able to graduate college debt free and start my life of success with just the help of the small monetary value of the scholarship.