

## Richardsons match \$4M for scholarships to provide access to education

## The Power of Scholarships

Clemson University was founded with the mission to provide our state's residents with "a high seminary of learning." More than 130 years later, our Institution has grown into one of the most productive public research universities in the nation — one that changes lives and changes the world. Clemson stands today as a topranked public university, earning national recognition for educational quality, value and affordability. Here, we bring together academics and interests for the greater good — fostering and developing top researchers, teachers, scientists and artists.

Every year, a new group of young people with new dreams arrives on campus looking for their next home — the place that will build the momentum for their journey forward. To bring these top students to our University, scholarships are crucial. And the most effective way to create an impactful scholarship endowment is through the strength of our general scholarship funds.

Although Clemson is nationally recognized for affordability, the cost of earning a four-year degree continues to climb nationwide. That means that many potential Clemson students and their families will continue to face financial obligations that are out of reach. For example, healthy financial aid packages that include Life Scholarships, Pell Grants and other benefits still leave in-state students facing costs around \$15,000 per year. Clemson believes no deserving students should be denied the Clemson Experience because of an inability to pay.

## **Access to Education for All**

Clemson was built on a foundation of philanthropy and the premise that those who had been given a quality education should pass that opportunity on to others. Clemson's greatest supporters, like Mark and Kathryn Richardson, ensure our University is filling in the missing pieces for our students so they can reach their greatest potential — whether highly recruited with merit-based scholarships or those who need financial assistance through needs-based scholarships.

As Champions for Clemson University, the Richardsons are challenging the Clemson Family to join them in transforming students' lives by supporting scholarships to provide an access to education for all.

Through the Champions 4 Access to Education challenge, the Richardsons will be matching gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$4 million to the following unrestricted scholarship endowments:

- Clemson University General Scholarship Endowment
- College-Level General Scholarship Endowments

When the Clemson Family reaches \$4 million in support of these unrestricted scholarships endowments, the Richardsons will unlock their \$4 million gift, creating a total impact of \$8 million in scholarships for Clemson students.

## **Accept the Challenge**

Commitment to an accessible education is part of our University's founding purpose. It's a purpose that has been passed down to the next generation of alumni and donors — like Mark and Kathryn Richardson. Today, the Richardson family is fulfilling this purpose by providing support to Clemson at a championship level and challenging the Clemson Family to do the same through support to scholarships.

Now is the time to turn our actions into significant impact. You can be the missing piece our students need to succeed. Your gift to general scholarships will give future generations access to an exceptional education — a Clemson education. You can make a gift directly to one of these scholarship endowments or establish your own endowment that supports general scholarships — universitywide or college specific.

Learn more about the Champions 4 Access to Education challenge here: https://news.clemson.edu/richardson-challenge.

GIFT COMMITMENTS MUST BE MADE BY

JUNE 30, 2023 Accept the challenge today and join Mark and Kathryn Richardson in being a champion for Clemson and our students.





