



ALBERTUS MAGNUS COLLEGE

Financial Aid Office

Testimony for the Appropriations Committee
Tasiana Joshua
Albertus Magnus College
March 4, 2021

My name is Tasiana Joshua and I am originally from the twin-island federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis. I moved to New Haven, Connecticut when I was 14. Moving from a small island high school to a large public high school was not an easy transition. I was used to uniforms, smaller class sizes, and a small town environment. I began my education in Connecticut at James Hill House High School and proudly graduated with honors in May 2019.

I am currently a second-year student at Albertus Magnus College, majoring in Health Care Management. Albertus was the right fit for me because while applying for schools, it was important to me that I attend an institution that is small but diverse. This would allow me to focus on my studies and create close relationships with my professors, which was something I was missing in high school. As a student who immigrated from the Caribbean, I also sought a diverse campus to help make my transition easier. My experience at Albertus has been very refreshing. The community is very friendly and welcoming. When I moved to campus, it was my first time being on my own and away from family. The family-oriented energy at Albertus made the transition smoother than I could have imagined.

Financial aid, including the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship, has been incredibly important to me. This scholarship has helped to take some of the burden off my shoulders and creates an opportunity for me to not borrow an additional loan and put even more financial stress on my parents. With the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship, I am able to focus more on my academics and future career path instead of agonizing over how I will pay for tuition or, even scarier, repay student loans. Financial aid has played an even bigger role in my life during the pandemic; my family is facing an even harder time where funding is concerned. The institutional aid I received through Albertus, as well as the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship, have helped to lessen our financial burden during these uncertain times. Graduation is still two years away, so I have plenty of time to figure out exactly what I want to do when I graduate. What I do know is that Albertus will have me prepared once I officially make that decision.

Please continue to fund the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program to ensure that students like myself have the opportunity to enroll in and succeed at the college that is the best fit for them.

Thank you,
Tasiana Joshua