

Dear Cindy and team,

Thank you so much for choosing me as one of the scholarship winners for the aspiring educator grant. Your organization has encouraged me to continue my pursuit in education.

When I first decided to pursue a career in teaching, I was told by a lot of people to "have a backup plan" because "teaching is a difficult profession" and I might not be cut out for it. Hearing this as a young student was frustrating and discouraging. I was not even sure if I should continue my pursuit. But then, I started school at LeTourneau University and fell in love with the education program! Then I received the ASTEF scholarship and <sup>the numbers of</sup> those who were supporting my career choice grew to include all of you.

Thank you for encouraging me to be the best teacher I can be. And for being one of the few that are making my career dreams come true.

May the Lord bless you all,

Charis Jordan