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## PRESS RELEASE

# OPEIU Family Member Awarded 2019 Union Plus Scholarship

*Winner Honored for Achievement and Union Values*

**Washington, D.C.** – Union Plus recently awarded \$170,000 in scholarships to 108 students representing 34 unions, including one winner representing the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU). This year’s group of scholarship recipients includes university, college, and trade or technical school students from 31 states plus the District of Columbia. The OPEIU winner is:

- **Zachary Rambo of Ovid, Michigan.** Rambo, whose mother, Dianna Rambo, is a member of OPEIU Local 459, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

“The entire team here at Union Plus is so proud to be able to offer this scholarship program to help union family members offset the high cost of college education,” Union Plus President Mitch Stevens said. “This year’s group of 108 winners are all incredibly talented, motivated, and deserving students taking an important step to further their education and build the foundation for future success.”

### **Meet the 2019 OPEIU Honoree**

#### **Zachary Rambo**

Zach is a 2019 graduate of Ovid-Elsie High School (OEHS) in Michigan and will major in nursing at Lansing [Michigan] Community College beginning this fall. He plans to obtain emergency medical technician (EMT) and certified nursing assistant (CNA) licenses en route to becoming a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA). Tracey Hoffman, agriscience teacher and FFA sponsor at OEHS, said Zach is an outstanding student with an excellent work ethic. “Zach has always taken great pride in his academics, and I definitely have seen this in his performance in my classroom,” Hoffman said. “He pushes himself to be a great student and has the motivation to succeed in whatever he chooses to do.”

*Activities and honors: FFA State Degree; FFA Silver Award, land judging; National Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars; National Technical Honor Society; OEHS varsity football, track and field*

*Volunteerism: Respite Care; Owosso Memorial Healthcare*

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## Learn More About the Union Plus Scholarship Program

The Union Plus Scholarship Program, now in its 28th year, awards scholarships based on outstanding academic achievement, personal character, financial need, and commitment to the values of organized labor. The program is offered through the Union Plus Education Foundation.

Since starting the program in 1991, Union Plus has awarded more than \$4.5 million in educational funding to more than 3,000 union members, spouses, and dependent children. Union Plus Scholarship awards are granted to students attending a two-year college, four-year college, graduate school, or recognized technical or trade school. The selection process is very competitive, and this year over 7,100 applications were received from 65 unions and all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and two U.S. territories, representing an almost 20% increase in applications from 2018.

Visit [unionplus.org/scholarship](http://unionplus.org/scholarship) for applications and benefit eligibility.

### About Union Plus

Union Plus, founded by the AFL-CIO in 1986, uses the collective buying power of America's 14.7 million union members to deliver top-quality benefits and services at competitive prices to working families. In addition to the scholarship program, Union Plus offers the new Free College program, which makes it possible for union members and their families to earn an associate degree completely online at no cost. Union Plus also provides a wide range of money-saving programs, including discounts on wireless services from AT&T, the only nationwide unionized wireless carrier; insurance protection; savings on travel and recreation; and more. For additional information, visit [unionplus.org](http://unionplus.org).

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