



NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

WOPU NATION FOOTBALL GRANT-IN-AID

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ND FAMILY





Endowed grants-in-aid, Notre Dame Athletics' number one funding priority, create a financial foundation so the University can provide student-athletes with an unparalleled collegiate experience featuring rigorous academics, spiritual enrichment, community involvement, and a premier athletic environment.

Each year, the Department of Athletics is responsible for providing 322.2 grants-in-aid allocated to over 500 student-athletes. These costs continue to rise due to NCAA regulations and the University's commitment to student-athlete welfare and development. Currently, 19% of the grant-in-aid costs are covered through over 170 benefactor established endowments. The total annual grant-in aid expense for the Athletics Department is approximately \$23,000,000.

To strengthen the financial foundation of the Athletics Department, Notre Dame is seeking gifts to grow the WOPU Nation Football Grant-in-Aid, with a preference to support the scholarship of a former student-athlete walk-on.

All endowments of \$100,000 or greater provide significant resources that reduce the need for annual gifts or revenues to be used on scholarships. An endowed grant-in-aid provides approximately 4.5 percent of its total value in scholarship funds each year, and any growth of the endowment over that amount is reinvested to raise the value for future generations. In time, endowed grants-in-aid could grow to cover a full scholarship annually, or even provide multiple scholarships. They are essential to the long-term sustainability of our Athletics programs.

WOPU Nation

Irish walk-on student-athletes have made game-winning plays, developed into standout players, and even held the honor of being named team captain. Often choosing Notre Dame over options at Ivy League schools, “Power Five” rivals, and local universities, walk-ons bring not only their talents, but their determination to Irish Football.

Walk-ons are essential to the overall success of the program. These student-athletes help prepare for upcoming opponents, compete for playing roles, and add tremendously to the camaraderie and closeness of the team. 2017 Notre Dame Football captain Austin Webster was formerly a walk-on before receiving a scholarship this past summer. Overall, there are 26 walk-ons currently on the Irish roster.



Impact of an Endowment

Endowments are crucial to the stability and longevity of Notre Dame's athletics programs because they:

- Ensure coverage of rising costs of higher education and NCAA scholarship requirements
- Provide resources for competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of the nation's top coaches
- Expand student-athlete academic, athletic, and personal resources

Currently endowment only covers **8.1%** of the approximately **\$6,000,000** grant-in-aid bill for football. Endowment funding is the only way to create a long-term solution to ensure Notre Dame is positioned to excel at the highest levels - today and tomorrow.

	Football
85 GRANTS-IN-AID	
10.4 ENDOWED	





BOLDLY
NOTRE DAME