



August 31, 2015

Dear CUScholar and family,

The first class of CUScholars graduated last May which gave us the opportunity to review the program based on four years of student involvement. We surveyed graduating seniors, as well as current CUScholars and their parents. Based on feedback from these surveys, along with conversations with both school districts and our community partners, we have decided to re-envision the CUScholars program over the course of the 2015-2016 school year.

What does this mean for CUScholars in the class of 2016, 2017 or 2018? It means that all students currently enrolled will still have the opportunity to receive a green cord and certificate at graduation, if you complete the following requirements by the end of your graduation year:

- Have a 95% attendance rate
- Completed the required coursework (4 years of high school level Math, 3 years of Laboratory Science, 2 years of the same foreign language and Social Studies as required by your school district)
- Maintained a 3.0 GPA
- Completed at least 40 documented volunteer hours (Please note the reduction.)

We will continue to send our monthly CUScholars e-newsletter highlighting volunteer opportunities. Also, in order to track volunteer hours efficiently, we are transitioning to an online system. As of December 31, 2015, we will no longer accept paper timesheets. Please turn in your current timesheets immediately, so we can update your records before we transition to an online system.

Within the next two weeks students will be notified about a CUScholars meeting at their high school. We will also post the meeting dates in our September e-newsletter and on our website, [www.cuscholars.org](http://www.cuscholars.org). During this meeting we will explain changes to the program and answer questions. Please watch your email for meeting dates. If you are not receiving emails about CUScholars, please contact Pat Dessen immediately so we can update your email address. Pat can be reached at 217-398-2873 or [pdessen@cuschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:pdessen@cuschoolsfoundation.org). If you have questions in the meantime, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly Delaney".

Molly Delaney, Executive Director  
Champaign-Urbana Schools Foundation