



Zoe grew up in a blended family with two step-brothers and an adopted sister. She went to public school and private school in her early years but then was home schooled from fifth grade through high school. She says she is not ashamed to admit that her favorite subject in high school was economics. That was all because her home school co-op instructor presented economic concepts in a way that fascinated her 15 year old mind. This led her to choose her current major, business administration.

Zoe has a strong passion to help others. Her current employment position is at Connection Point Church as an assistant office manager, where she has ample opportunity to help others. Her involvement goes well beyond her office job responsibilities. She helps meet the needs of the community through the church food pantry, car seat donation ministry, and other resources offered through the church. She participates in the music program and with youth. She says, "I truly appreciate the opportunity to invest in teenagers' lives through my job."

Zoe has completed her first year at Ivy Tech and plans to graduate in 2017. Even with her job, she manages to have a high GPA at school. Her academic achievements are attested to by her instructors. One says, "Every so often as a teacher we encounter a student who leaves a lasting impression. Zoe is one of these students. She has proven to be one of the brightest and hard working." Another writes, "Zoe's excellent leadership skills and passion cause her to stand out amongst her peers, with whom she is highly esteemed. She is a wonderful role model, full of pluck and ambition."

This scholarship means a lot to Zoe. This past year unexpected bills and car problems for the family caused them to cash in some of their savings. That increased their yearly income and, in domino effect, that made Zoe ineligible for the Pell Grant and Higher Education Award she had been receiving. Zoe says, "The Rotary scholarship is immensely important to me because I would like to finish my degree on time and debt free so that I can excel at my job and in my service to the youth at my church."