

## Two Minnesota Students Awarded CenturyLink Scholarships

CHASKA, Minn. – Forty-two students nationwide have some extra cash to defray rising college costs thanks to CenturyLink’s scholarship program. Two of this year’s winners are from Minnesota: Nicole Bloms, daughter of John Bloms, Retail Store Keyholder working in Chaska; and Daniel Cox, son of Mick Cox, network communications technician working in Glencoe.

Both Nicole and Daniel will receive \$1,000 per year, for up to four years of their college education. Nicole will be attending Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter to study pre-med. Daniel will be attending South Dakota State University to study Pharmacy.

The National Center for Education Statistics reports that prices at public institutions rose by 30 percent, adjusted for inflation, over the last decade. To help families, CenturyLink’s program awards scholarships to dependents of employees, who have at least a 3.0 grade point average and will attend an accredited junior college, college or university. The students can retain the scholarship each year by maintaining a 3.0 grade point average.

“These are some really bright students and I’m proud that we can help them achieve their goal of getting a higher education,” said Mark Tupper, CenturyLink’s area operations manager for Minnesota.

Regional scholarship committees interviewed applicants, considering commitment to career, financial need and other scholarships and educational goals before making a final decision.

Additionally, CenturyLink offers scholarships open to the community. Applications for the 2011 scholarship program will be available from high school guidance counselors in December of this year. Students who live in CenturyLink serving areas are encouraged to apply for the scholarship. Selections of the CenturyLink scholarships are based on the students’ financial need, academic achievements and extra-curricular activities.

CenturyLink is a leading provider of high-quality broadband, entertainment and voice services over its advanced communications networks to consumers and businesses in 33 states. CenturyLink, headquartered in Monroe, La., is an S&P 500 company and is included among the Fortune 500 list of America’s largest corporations. For more information on CenturyLink, visit [www.centurylink.com](http://www.centurylink.com).

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