



Spring 2025

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
EASTERN SHORE**

CARMEN E. LILLY ENDOWMENT FUND **for Counseling Education**

In Memory of Carmen E. Lilly ***UMES Class of 1998***

Carmen E. Lilly earned her B.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 1998 and, despite facing serious health challenges, returned to complete her Master of Education in Counselor Education in 2004.

As a devoted high school counselor, Carmen poured her heart into helping students pursue their dreams. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched and the many students she mentored and inspired to reach higher.

In tribute to Carmen's unwavering commitment to education, her family has established this endowment to support full-time graduate students in the Counselor Education program at UMES. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need or academic merit, with recipients maintaining a minimum 3.2 GPA—continuing Carmen's tradition of excellence, perseverance, and compassion.



A Few Words from Carmen E. Lilly Scholarship Recipients



FAITHLYN IRVING

My name is Faithlyn Irving, and I was born in St. Catherine, Jamaica. From a young age, I've always found myself in the position of being a source of comfort and support for others—whether they were peers, younger individuals, or even adults. Offering encouragement and helping people navigate difficult times comes naturally to me, and this has deeply influenced my decision to pursue a career in counseling.

I chose the field of counseling because I believe it provides the ideal platform, tools, and understanding I need to effectively communicate with students. I want to be someone they can trust and turn to, especially during challenging moments in their lives. My passion lies in being a consistent and compassionate presence, helping others find clarity and strength when they need it most.

My long-term goal is to become a school counselor in a high school setting, where I can make a meaningful impact in the lives of young people. Additionally, I aspire to open my own therapy establishment, offering professional support to a wider community.

This scholarship will greatly benefit me by helping cover the cost of the courses I need to take, bringing me one step closer to achieving my professional dreams and continuing my journey of helping others.



NATHANIEL LOWE

My name is Nathaniel (Nate) Lowe, and I am from Somerset County, Md. I grew up about 15 minutes from the UMEC campus in Westover, Maryland, and graduated from Washington High School in 2019. I received a bachelor's degree in physical education from Salisbury University in 2023 before applying to the counselor education program here at UMEC.

I chose the field of counseling because I would like to be a role model and have a positive impact on people's lives. I've always been an active listener and try to help people however I can. During my internships at Salisbury University, I began to find interest in school counseling as a career, and one of my mentors, who I respected, earned his master's degree in counseling as well, which ultimately led me to choose this field.

My long-term goals are to promote academic success and mental health awareness within a school setting for kids of the next generation. Teaching students academic, social, emotional, and career development is a big aspect of what it means to be a school counselor. Receiving this scholarship would be a tremendous financial help for me. This generous award will help me focus on excelling academically. Thank you for choosing me for this scholarship. I am truly grateful for this opportunity. It is a great honor to be a recipient of the Carmen Lilly Scholarship.

A Few Words from Carmen E. Lilly Scholarship Recipients



ROXANNE LONG

Hi there, my name is Roxanne Long, and I grew up on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, and have lived on the Eastern Shore most of my life. I graduated from UMES in 2017 with my bachelor's degree in special education. I became a teacher in Worcester County Public Schools in Maryland in 2017 and have career aspirations to become a school counselor in an elementary or middle school setting.

I chose the field of counseling because I have always had a natural ability to actively listen, empathize, and understand others on a deeper level. I love helping others overcome challenges, love to listen intently, and aspire to help children become the best versions of themselves! This scholarship will benefit me by offsetting the costs of tuition fees, books, and supplemental materials for extended learning (Maryland School Counseling Association conferences, American School Counseling Association trainings, and more!).

I am extremely grateful and honored to be a recipient of the Carmen Lilly Scholarship. Thank you so much for choosing me and for your generosity!



RAIN TERRY

I am Rain Terry (formerly Best), a dedicated educator from Scranton, PA, who is currently shaping young minds as a 7th-grade English Language Arts teacher with Wicomico County Public Schools, Maryland. Throughout my teaching career, I discovered a deeper calling — to help others reach their highest potential. My greatest strength lies in building meaningful connections with students and empowering them to navigate both academic and personal challenges.

With a heart for growth and a desire to expand my impact, I took a significant step forward. After much reflection and prayer, I enrolled in the Counselor Education program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. I aim to continue supporting adolescents as they navigate the complexities of their most formative years.

My long-term vision includes establishing my own practice, which is dedicated to the growth and development of young people. I hope my commitment will create a positive, lasting impact that extends beyond individuals to strengthen entire communities. I am driven by the belief that investing in our youth is an investment in a brighter, more connected future.

This scholarship will allow me to focus on my academics without pause. With the Carmen Lilly scholarship, I can take summer courses and complete classes that will advance my studies to reach my short- and long-term goals.

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