THE 2018 PDSA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

\$1,500 RECIPIENT



William Keegan McCollum – Eldorado, TX Texas A&M University-Kingsville

"ITP changed my life, this is certain, but not in a negative way that

most would expect. I learned about myself, my illness opened the door to information about this disorder in my community, and I learned to serve others. My high school years look different than I first imagined, yet better than how I had it pictured. Instead of football stardom, I discovered that working behind the scenes and serving my community was much more valuable and rewarding. I learned that there is more than one path to success and that serving others can have more of a lasting impact than catching the winning pass on Friday night."

\$750 RECIPIENT



Rachel Melton – Hutto, TX Abilene Christian University

"...ITP has made me the strong person that I am, and ITP does not take away who I am as it takes away my platelets

but adds to who I am as a person and as a prospective physician. I hope to one day be

able to treat patients with the compassion and ability that was shown to me as a young child, and I hope to one day be able to teach children that a medical issue cannot define who you are but will aid you in ways that you never expected."

\$250 BOOK AWARD RECIPIENTS



Brantley Acke – Lexington, KY Western Kentucky University

"While ITP can make things more challenging in life, I refuse to let it hold me back."



Martha Becilla – Morgantown, WV West Virginia University

"...I wouldn't change the fact that I have ITP because it has had a defining impact on who I am today."

Colin Roberts – Cedarhurst, NY Louisiana State University

"These challenges that I am facing have shown me that you cannot take life for granted...after being diagnosed with ITP, I buckled down and focused on my studies so that I could achieve my goals and success in my life."