



An Nguyen

### **Details**

#### **Award Period**

Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

#### A Note of Thanks...

I feel so incredibly blessed to have received this scholarship and there are no words that can even begin to express how grateful I am. When I received the email notification that I have been awarded this, it fully brought me to tears and the first person that I called was my dad. It was the first time that I've ever heard him cry out of happiness and the first thing he said to me was "I can't be more proud of you. I love you." As my father has not always been the most affectionate person in the world, these words held so much meaning to me.

I wanted to start off by saying thank you. There were moments where I questioned if I could pay off my tuition every semester, as I have reduced my hours at work to fully focus on doing well in school. With this scholarship, I am able to fully cover my tuition and keep pursuing my dreams in nursing. This has fueled my motivation to do the best that I can in my program and to keep learning with an open mind. This has been life-changing, not only for me, but for the multiple students that you have chose to invest in as well.

As a little girl who immigrated from Vietnam to America when I was 2 years old, I've always had dreams of being in healthcare and making my parents proud of me. That dream is now becoming a reality and I couldn't be more elated. I will forever remember your generosity and hope to pay this forward in the future.

Thank you for contributing towards my dream. You have changed my life and I hope to do the same for other as you have done for me.

Sincerely,

An Nguyen

#### In Their Own Words...

My name is An Nguyen. I am a first generation college graduate that is pursuing a career in nursing at Austin Community College. I got the privilege to attend the University of Texas—Austin and graduated



with a bachelor's degree in biology. But I decided that nursing was something that I truly wanted to do. When I was two years old, I immigrated from Vietnam to the United States to chase after the American Dream alongside my parents. I hope to be a nurse working in either L&D, NICU, or PICU, but I am also keeping my options open as I am eager to learn about other specialties. In my free time, I love to bake, go on hikes around Austin, rock climb, and give back to the community by volunteering from time to time (my personal favorite organization is Central Food Bank). I love meeting new people and making connections. So don't be afraid to say hi if you ever see me in person!

## **ACC Major**

Nursing





## Samantha Macias

#### **Details**

#### **Award Period**

Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

#### A Note of Thanks...

Where do I begin,

Thank you is not enough to show how grateful I am for this opportunity. This has saved me very much stress and has been able to ease the first day back to school. I am very grateful for receiving this opportunity, being an LVN for a year and a half there is nothing more that I want than to become an RN. I have been able to shadow RN's and help RN's and I am confident I will succeed in the program. I look forward to the future, and I will work hard to show those who have supported me and helped me along the way that it is possible. I will be the first healthcare worker as an RN in my family which means so much to me and my family. Thank you so much.

Sincerely, Samantha Macias

## In Their Own Words...

I am Samantha Macias, and I a twenty-five years old. I have started school in the RN program at ACC. I have two furry babies that I care about a lot. I am originally from EI Paso and moved to central Texas about five years ago. I have worked very hard to be where I am. I will continue to work to be where I want to be five years from now. I worked as a pediatric nurse for a year and loved every moment of it. It was a dream being able to work in pediatrics right after LVN graduation; therefore, I want to continue in pediatrics and definitely end up in the NICU or a nurse practitioner in pediatrics.

#### **ACC Major**

nursing





**Daniel Jones** 

#### **Details**

#### **Award Period**

Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

#### A Note of Thanks...

Thank you! Thank you to every donor who has made this scholarship opportunity a reality for me. This scholarship will allow me to return to ACC to become a nurse and pursue my life-long dream of enhancing my patients' overall quality of life.

Currently, I help financially support my grandmother (a mother whose calling was to stay at home and raise her seven beloved children and who lost her husband five years ago) and my mother (who was unemployed for a large portion of the pandemic).

Moreover, from paying for textbooks to paying for nursing courses, this scholarship will serve as a much-needed source of relief so that I can focus less on financial hardships and focus more on my course work.

Thank you!

Daniel Jones

### In Their Own Words...

The school bell sounded, declaring another start of a new day for me as a sixth-grader. The wonderment of learning new things excited me, but this day was different. The counselor entered, and with her presence came opportunities. She proceeded to distribute packets labeled with nondescript lettering while expressing, "Boys and girls, we are going to take a career aptitude test." I answered all of the questions, and the only match that aligned with my answers was medicine. Excitement washed over me because the thought of serving humanity to attempt to enhance the overall quality of life for my patients brought a smile to my face.

Despite my aspirations, my educational journey through intermediate and secondary schooling presented challenges that I had to surmount. From living with my grandparents after my parents' divorce to helping clean a church after school to help supplement my mother's income as she clothed and fed my brother and me. My goal of pursuing a career in medicine appeared unobtainable, so I scaled back my



dreams, and I was fortunate to enroll in college as a math major (math being my sole academic strength). My love for helping people was still brought to fruition because I became a teacher.

Still, my dream of operating in the medical realm never disappeared. It became harder to tell my students to pursue their dreams at all costs while I had yet to pursue my interest in medicine deliberately. Thus, now, I return to ACC to become a nurse and pursue my life-long dream. I am older now, with lived experience, but I am sure that a career in medicine is what I want. Yes, I help support financially my grandmother and my mother. Still, I am eager to learn, grow, and fulfill my childhood dream of becoming a nurse.

## **ACC Major**

Nursing





Andromeda Vega

### **Details**

#### **Award Period**

Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

#### A Note of Thanks...

Thank you WellSky for choosing to invest in my college education to become a Professional Nurse. Nursing has always been a dream of mine and with the provided funds I will be able to accomplish this. It's uplifting to know that I have your financial support to help make my dreams reality, I cannot THANK YOU enough.

Warm regards, Andromeda Vega Aspiring RN

### In Their Own Words...

My name is Andromeda Vega, I'm 26 years old with a 2-year-old daughter. I'm first-generation Texas and first in my family to attend college. I'm the second oldest of five!

I graduated from Austin Community College – Vocational Nursing program during the pandemic and graduated December of 2020. Before even graduating, I applied to ACC's LVN to RN program and have been accepted to start August of 2021, I'm expected to graduate December of 2022 with an associate degree in Nursing.

After graduation I would love to work as a pediatric nurse, but I'm specifically interested in public health. My goal is to have a bachelor's degree from UT Austin and eventually earn a master's degree in public health. Maybe even become a pediatrician and have my own Doctor's office.

## **ACC Major**

Nursing





Alyssa Wisson

### **Details**

#### **Award Period**

Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

#### A Note of Thanks...

To the WellSky Scholarship Program,

Today I received notification that I am awarded a \$2,500 scholarship, I am deeply moved and honored to have been chosen as one of the recipients. I am so excited to start my journey in the nursing field as it has always been a huge dream of mine since I was young. This scholarship will be able to help me achieve and reach my goals for the next two semesters. It has been a very difficult and stressful time due to COVID, and this will help alleviate my stress. The entire journey leading up to this point has been very long, and I have struggled multiple times but never gave up. Receiving this award motivates me even that much more to keep moving forward with my head held high. I will never be able to find enough words to say thank you but just know this means so much to me.

Thank you, Alyssa Wisson

#### In Their Own Words...

My name is Alyssa Wisson, and I am twenty-six years old. Right now, I am in my first semester of nursing school here at ACC. I will graduate May 2023 with my ADN, and continue on to get my BSN through West Governors Union online program. I began working in the health care field when I was eighteen years old. Having eight years of experience under my belt of working at the hospital during COVID has taught me so much. Working towards my goals in life will never be easy but I refuse to let anything get in my way. The quote I live by is, "Be the change you wish to see in the world--Gandhi". I plan always to spread positivity and hope to everyone around me and let them know you can do anything you put your mind to.

## **ACC Major**

**ADN** Degree