

Personal Statement

As immigrants we face many obstacles, the most common one and difficult is the language, I remember when I started junior high school most of my classmates spoke the language and for me it was something totally new because my primary language was Spanish, at times I felt left out, it was frustrating and I felt shy to say or write something wrong, but I never gave up. My parents have taught me that we need to open our own opportunities by fighting our fears and demonstrate the rest that we really can do more much more than what we imagine.

Furthermore, during my trajectory I was counting to go to college and get the support of my parents after graduating from high school. I would like to mention the effort that my parents did to provide us a better education, especially my mom. She was always working so she could provide me the support I was going to need but when I was in 10th grade she got really ill and she had to leave her job. Sometimes as immigrants we are scared to ask for help because of the language, because we are immigrants or maybe how expensive hospitals can be. My mother, since she got to this country never checked herself and I understand her, usually we come from rural areas where we don't hear about certain disease like Cancer so we are not aware that anyone can get cancer. My mom lived with cancer for about two years and a half. I was 16. At the beginning I did not understand how hard this could be and how it could change my life completely. I had to stay sometimes for about a month at the hospital with my mom all night and go home early in the morning shower and go to school. I used to see my dad stress, worry because he had to work hard for my mother, sister, brother and me. I really admire both of my parents for all the hard work they have done for us.

In 2011 I graduated from high school, but two months before that I was dreaming about the college I wanted to go to, I did not have any knowledge that I needed a social security in order to get financial help and continue my education, I have a flashback when I was having a conversation with my counselor and she asked me for my social. I had never heard of that. She told me that if I did not have one I was going to have to pay for college. I felt disappointed for not continuing with my dreams of going to college. After graduating highschool I had to look for a job to help my dad but most places I went they asked me for a social security number and experience I did not have. My goal was to find a job and save money for college because that's what I really wanted to do, but my priority was my mother. In January 22 of 2012 my mom passed away. So I need to continue working hard to complete my goals. I have she as my role model today and in every step of my life she would always be. This scholarship would mean a new opportunity and new beginning to the last stage of my journey, It would have a great significance because I would be able to realize my dream of becoming a doctor. Therefore, I would keep helping immigrants and show the rest of the community how important education is and provide them support.

My financial situation is critical because I have to work to pay for school, and my bills. I work part time and I don't make that much money. It stresses you out that you have to pay college tuition, your personal expenses and rent. I would like to be able to be to be a full time student and finish my career on time, I left my dream behind for two years not because I wanted to but because of the things I had to live.

I would like to be considered as a candidate to obtain this scholarship and keep working hard like I have done until today so in the future, like I have mentioned my dream is not only to have a profession and become a better person, but also help my community by sharing my experience so they don't have to go through what me and family have lived and show them that dreams can be a reality working hard, being persistent and of course like my mom said "never give up because everything you want to do can be possible".