

My name is Danielle-Nustrat Collison, I am a graduating 12 student at Centre Dufferin District High School. I believe that as a Black identifying student, I deserve this scholarship because I have always been a leader and look for opportunities to help in my community. Recently, I led a workshop for Black students in the Dufferin County area that encouraged students to acknowledge their rights as a minority group in our area, and not to be afraid to make their voices heard. I gained lots of positive feedback after the event as well as ideas to improve for next year. Although I am graduating next year, I hope to come back to provide assistance as an alumni. In addition, from a young age, I have taken part in volunteering around the Dufferin community with my congregation, sharing encouraging, reassuring bible-based thoughts to help support our society during these difficult times. As previously mentioned, helping others has always been my number one priority. This scholarship will help me continue to do so in my community.

My academic goal for my last year of high school is to graduate my final year of highschool (June 2022) with honours, at least a 85% average. I need to have marks in the high 80s in all my classes in order to reach this goal. This past semester I have been able to get all my marks in the 90s. In order to maintain this, I work hard to ensure that the work I submit exceeds course expectations. This means I need to plan out my assignments as to how much time I have to do them and when I will do them. I have to balance all 3 courses as well. School is already systematic and I am currently not behind in any of my courses, so the steps I need to reach my goal are essentially set for me. I know I will graduate this year as I only have 3 credits left to attain that I am currently working on. I plan to accomplish my goal by Jun 24, 2022 .

High school is almost over, however, my education and learning does not end here. Once I graduate, I plan to go to college to get a diploma in my career choice. I have always had a passion for helping people and encouraging them to become the best version of themselves. Therefore, since I was young, I knew that if I were to choose an occupation, my biggest wish would be that I enjoy what I do and actually have the time with an individual to do so. With that in mind, I plan to go to school for a diploma in physiotherapist assistant. I'd like to engage in extra classes that will help me to build and improve my skills to service others. My goal is to help people feel better about themselves and look for ways to make everyday activities easier for them, in spite of the pain they may experience. The physiotherapist assistant program I have entered and gratefully been accepted into is at Georgian college at their campus in Barrie Ontario, it is a 2 year course that starts in January of 2023.

Earning this scholarship will help me with my tuition fees and transportation expenses. I have been working hard on saving money for myself heading into college but recently, upon consideration of all the fees that are attached to entering a program, including things like books, I do not think I will be able to cover everything without some help. I am really passionate about the program I have been endorsed to and I really hope I am not forced to withdraw because I can not afford it.

Despite my involvement in my community, it has never been easy for me to engage in my area as I am a very introverted individual. However, one thing I plan to take away from my highschool career is resilience. There have been many occasions in which I fear taking a step forward, but practising resilience prepares me to accept my failures and push myself to try again. I believe that it is such an important skill, especially when trying to achieve a significant dream.

I live in the town of Shelburne at 753 Halbert Dr. Ontario. My email address is danjun04@ gmail.com and my phone number is (437) 991-7959. I am 17 years old, my parents are from Ghana, west Africa. However, I am a first generation Canadian.