

My desire to become a doctor has been a lifelong dream. I have always had a passion for helping others and a natural affinity for the Sciences. Nothing excites me more than a Chemistry experiment, working in the Biology Lab or solving a complex math equation! I recently completed my first year in the Biomedical Sciences undergraduate program with a place on the Dean's List. I looked forward to starting my second year at the University of Guelph. As a person of colour and the child of immigrants, I am proud to say that I am the first person in my family to achieve acceptance in a Medical Science program with a full scholarship.

Despite this fact, I must admit that my personal experience in school and my community has been a positive one thus far. I have been fortunate enough to have had the constant support of my parents, teachers, and extended community. They have always encouraged me to participate in various school activities such as football, chess, and student council. All of which made my time at school a memorable one. With over 100 hours of volunteering during my time at Robert F. Hall, I desire to find ways of helping those around me in every way I can. The time I have spent volunteering at school and in my community has taught me valuable life lessons that I hope to use in my four years at University. I have learned how to be a part of a community and be open to brainstorming new ideas alongside others to find innovative solutions to achieve the best outcomes. Below is a list of my most memorable volunteer experiences to date:

- **Student Council:** Student Representative (Grade 10 & 11) Treasurer (Grade 12)
- **Ontario Pioneer Camp:** Active member of the 252 /Impact Crew for two years where I helped with facility management as well as a mentor for younger campers
- **Scouts Canada:** Helped with annual fundraising events, booth & event setup
- **Faith Fellowship Church/Assemblies of God Church:** Food Bank volunteer/donor, assisted with setting up for music nights, Vacation Bible School/Summer Camp co-director
- **Rib Fest Volunteer:** Event Clean up Crew
- **Optimist Club:** Assisted with Christmas in the Park Setup for two years
- **Social Justice Club** – Executive Committee member (Plan and coordinate event setup, Man booth, an active participant in all events
- **Robert F. Hall Audio Visual Crew:** Senior member, event setup and operation, mentoring new members
- **New Student Mentor- Wolfpack Orientation team:** Conduct school tours for new Robert F. Hall students
- **Mindfulness Matters Team:** Participate in partner school activities around awareness-building re student mental health, event set up, conduct yoga and meditation workshops
- **Orangeville Outlaws Representative Football:** Peewee – Junior Varsity Team member (Offense/Defence)
- **Robert F. Hall - Wolfpack Football Team** – Offensive player from Grade 10 – 12, 2019 ROPSSA Champions
- **Orangeville Outlaws** – Offensive and Defensive player since 2013, 2017 OPFL Champions

I am encouraged because I was one of three Valedictorian nominees from a cohort of 250 students in my graduating year and was elected Salutatorian of my graduating class. Playing

football for over five years also enhanced my ability to acquire a “can do” attitude that has allowed me to overcome many challenges and improved my ability to persevere through difficult situations with determination regardless of the obstacles in my path. While I hope to complete my education without student debt, there is a high likelihood that I will incur debt before completion. Being awarded the DCCBA Black Excellence Award Scholarship would help me realize this goal by filling the funding gap that I currently have as I prepare for my second year.

As a proud member of the Black community, I plan to carry myself in a manner that will make me an exemplary student among my peers in the Biomedical Science program. I will also actively look for opportunities to mentor other black students by participating in the Power to Change campus group, of which I am an active participant. When I become a doctor, I will give my time and financial energy to build our community and encourage those in my network to aspiring for lifelong excellence. In the future, I will continue the strive to find opportunities to be my authentic self while being a positive example of black excellence for others.