

**The Nutanix Advancing Women in Technology scholarship is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated efforts of advancing women in technology and whose efforts will continue during and after their education. Please use the space provided to describe your past efforts and future plans. Use the questions as a guide to help you build your response, demonstrating how you hope to shape the future of women in technology: Why did you choose to get a degree in technology and what do you plan to do with your education? How have your past experiences inspired you? How will this scholarship help you in your efforts to advance women in technology?(500 words limit)**

From the moment our computer teacher showed the magic behind cartoon character creation using software called Scratch, my fascination with technology ignited like a spark in the dark. It was in those moments of playful exploration that I saw the boundless potential of technology to shape our world. This early encounter planted the seeds of curiosity and innovation within me, propelling me towards a degree in technology.

I believe that education can transform lives and empower individuals to reach their full potential. As I continue to learn and grow in my own journey, I plan to pay it forward by actively engaging in mentorship programs, volunteering opportunities, and educational initiatives aimed at inspiring the next generation of technologists, especially women since I myself belong to this minority in the field of technology.

One pivotal experience that shaped my commitment to advancing women in technology was my involvement with Codess Cafe, a coding community dedicated to empowering girls in technology. Serving as a mentor, I had the opportunity to guide and support fellow students, particularly those facing barriers to entry in the tech field. By sharing knowledge, and advocating for inclusivity, I witnessed firsthand the transformative power of mentorship in empowering individuals to pursue and excel in technology-related careers.

Additionally, my time as a research intern at NIT Hamirpur, an engineering institute in India, further solidified my dedication to advancing women in technology. In a team where women were notably absent except for myself, I became acutely aware of the scarcity of female representation in the tech and research fields, particularly in areas like machine learning. This realization fueled my determination to actively work towards breaking down barriers and promoting inclusivity in the technology sector.

One significant way I could utilize this scholarship is by bringing in better mentors for communities like Girl Up at my institute, Thapar University, and Codess Cafe. Mentorship plays a crucial role in empowering individuals to pursue and excel in technology-related fields. By leveraging the scholarship funds, I could invite experienced professionals and leaders in the tech industry to mentor young women aspiring to enter the field. These mentors could provide invaluable guidance, share their experiences, and serve as role models, inspiring the next generation of women technologists.

Additionally, I see an opportunity to collaborate with my professors to launch women-only research programs within the university. Research plays a pivotal role in driving innovation and advancement in technology. However, women are often underrepresented in research fields, particularly in areas like machine learning and artificial intelligence. With the

scholarship funding, I could collaborate with professors to establish research programs specifically designed to encourage and support women in conducting meaningful research projects. By providing resources and opportunities tailored to their needs, we can empower women to make significant contributions to the field of technology.

In conclusion, the Nutanix Advancing Women in Technology scholarship would enable me to amplify my efforts in advancing women in technology. Through initiatives such as mentorship programs and women-only research programs, I aim to create a more inclusive and supportive tech industry.