

Dear donors,

Thank you for your support and your generous donation in the form of the AAUW Scholarship. It is an absolute privilege to receive this award and support in my educational journey.

I am a first-year medical student at the University of Michigan Medical School and I'm originally from Longmont, CO. It is very grounding to feel connected to my Longmont community no matter how far from home I am. This first year of medical school has been challenging, albeit incredibly rewarding as I have gotten to learn such a wide scope of material: from the cardio-pulmonary system, to human anatomy, to proper patient conduct. Outside of the classroom, I enjoy the Ann Arbor outdoors (I call them a cousin to Colorado outdoors), baking, spending time with my friends, and dancing for our school's annual dance show called Biorhythms. I get to choreograph a fun dance routine with my peers and perform it in front of a large audience including our faculty.

Next year, I will start my clinical rotations and will spend a few months in each of the following: surgery, OBGYN, pediatrics, neurology, psychiatry, internal medicine, emergency medicine, and additional electives. This is going to be an extremely intensive year and I will likely be working around the clock. Although I am nervous, I am very excited to see all of the "action" and see everything I've learned so far come to life in the hospital. I am currently interested in OBGYN and hope that next year, I will be able to solidify my clinical interests.

This scholarship means a lot to me for a number of reasons. First, any form of financial support will help offset the debt burden I will have for the next 10 years of my life. Secondly, receiving this scholarship from the AAUW aligns very strongly with my motives for entering medicine in the first place: to empower and support women in higher education. Third, as mentioned, I feel grateful to still be engaged with my hometown and receiving opportunities like this reassures me that my home team still has my back.

Thank you,

Mohika Nagpal