

Dear Donor,

I want to take the time to introduce myself as the recipient of the Roger C. Biron Scholarship and to thank you for making it possible for me to receive this generous award. I am finishing up my freshman year as a student in the College of Natural Sciences majoring in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In high school, I spent my last two years being the captain of three different athletic teams, participated in student council throughout three of my years, and made an amazing connection with a neurologist at Berkshire Medical Center that I met my junior year through one of my many shadowing experiences. It was encounters like these that inspired me to want to become a leader and still remind me daily of the capability I have to positively impact and help other people, and I find little more satisfying than that.

I'm very excited to be spending my time here at UMass and couldn't be happier than where I am now, it's a perfect match that's allowing me to be everything I want to be. I've made some really great friends, adore my roommate, have found support when I needed it, have had plenty of fun, and have definitely learned something new each day. Most importantly, I look forward to what my future here has to bring me. I really believe that I am at the perfect place to work towards my goals. For as long as I can remember, I've wanted to follow in my grandfather's footsteps and become a successful doctor just like him by attending medical school after my time here. It's almost as if it runs in my blood! One of my cousins recently graduated from the School of Medicine at Tufts University and is now practicing neurosurgery at Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital in New Hampshire. This school has all the resources I could ever ask for to help enhance my own drive to help others someday just like members of my family did and are doing.

It's the thoughtful individuals like you that make my goals that much more achievable by allowing me to attend this school with your help. I can't say that my family and I would be able to experience the same sense of security, at least financially, that we have if it were not for your scholarship. I'm confident in the education that I am receiving and am more than thankful that I get to spend my time here. Without your assistance, it may have been a more difficult decision for me to come here and I would have been shorted of the experiences I have yet to gain and denied those that I did have. I know that my family is just as proud to send me to UMass as I am to attend it, and that's a considerable fact, for I come from a father that has a two year associate's degree and a mother that only has a high school high school diploma. They would do anything in their power to see me achieve my goals, so the fact that they can watch me craft a life I've been wanted to have without experiencing an enormous financial burden is something they'll be ever grateful for. In the end, I really can't say how much I appreciate your generosity and I thank you for that and your help.

Sincerely,

UMass Amherst Scholarship Recipient