



UC San Diego Chancellor's Scholars Program

International Study Scholarship

Sponsored by Dr. Suresh Subramani & Dr. Feroza Ardeshir



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Major: Public Health,

Medicine Science

Cohort Year: 2022

*Plans to study abroad in
South Korea*

My journey to this point has been marked by resilience and determination. Leaving my motherland at ten was a challenging yet transformative experience. My family and I moved to the United States for a better life, but the transition was difficult. As a young Filipino girl with limited English Proficiency, I faced bullying and isolation. However, these experiences also fueled my drive to succeed.

I dedicated myself to mastering English and eventually overcame the language barrier that once held me back. This journey taught me the power of perseverance and the importance of embracing my identity. As a first-generation college student, I am driven to succeed not only for myself but also for my family. My parents, who sacrificed everything to provide us with better opportunities, are my biggest inspiration and I am determined to make them proud.

Building on this foundation of resilience, studying abroad in South Korea is a dream that embodies my deepest aspirations. This opportunity represents more than just an academic endeavor; it is a chance to grow personally, culturally, and professionally. Immersing myself in a different culture, gaining a global perspective, and enhancing my academic journey is integral to my goals. By studying in a country renowned for its advancements in technology, healthcare, and research, I aim to deepen my knowledge and skills in public health, particularly in medical science. The rigorous academic environment will challenge me, pushing me to excel and adapt to new learning styles. Additionally, experiencing Korea's healthcare system firsthand will provide unique insights I can bring back to the United States, enriching my future practice as a Physician Assistant specializing in dermatology.

Furthermore, cultural immersion is another significant aspect of my goals for studying abroad. South Korea's vibrant culture, history, and traditions offer a unique learning experience that goes beyond textbooks. I am eager to engage with the local community, learn the Korean language, and participate in cultural activities that will broaden my perspective. This cultural exchange will not only enhance my global awareness but also make me a more empathetic and culturally competent healthcare professional. By immersing myself in the culture, I will gain a deeper understanding of the people and their values, growing as an individual and becoming more open-minded and adaptable.

Reflecting on my past, the adversity I faced has prepared me to fully embrace the challenges and opportunities that studying in South Korea will bring. By immersing myself in a new environment, I will continue to develop the resilience and adaptability crucial to my success thus far. Studying abroad in South Korea will be a pivotal step in achieving my academic and professional goals. I am confident that this experience will shape me into a well-rounded, culturally aware, and compassionate healthcare professional ready to make a positive impact in the world. This journey is not just about academic growth; it is about becoming a global citizen who can bridge cultures and make meaningful contributions to society.