

Emmanuel Kpogo

I was the beneficiary of the EPI full scholarship program during my undergraduate study at the University of Ghana. Currently, I serve as the President of the EPI Alumni Charter in Ghana. The aims of EPI, of making the African continent a better place to live, rightly coincide with those of many Africans seeking higher education to build their skill set for the job market and to contribute their quota to their nation's development.

EPI, over the past years, has collaborated with leading universities in Ghana to train African intellectuals with appreciable and evidence-based understand of African societies, pre and post-colonial past, values and institutions. The end goal is that these trained Africans can lead the search for African model of development that would restore human dignity and decent living to ordinary people in Africa.

Clauses in the EPI scholarship agreement seek to solve the problem of brain drain. I strongly believe that the best means of tackling Africa's development problem is to train African intellectuals to lead the quest for finding solutions to their country's development problems. That exactly is the business of EPI.

EPI did not only remove my financial burden during my undergraduate Political Science studies at the University of Ghana, it also encouraged me to believe in myself and to think beyond the ordinary. EPI's merit-based scholarship takes into consideration high academic scores, past leadership and voluntary activities, in the selection process. High academic scores are also needed to maintain the scholarship throughout undergraduate years.

The EPI country coordinator is a great addition to the program. She is unceasingly looking out for you, readily writes recommendations and even speaks with organizations on your behalf for internship opportunities. By the time I was done with my undergraduate studies, I had enormous volunteer and paid work experience on my resume. These voluntary services helped me to develop key competencies such as good communication, presentation, interpersonal and networking skills, probing and analytical thinking abilities.

