

GABRIEL EDUDZI BANINI



I am Gabriel Edudzi Banini, a 5th-year medical student at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST). Three years ago, I took a scholarship application to the scholarship office on campus and guess what, the secretary refused to accept my application.

It was actually my fault because I had missed the deadline by an hour. My next option was to get a student loan or a campus job, both of which come with lots of disadvantages. As I was making my way out of the office, feeling very disappointed, I met a friend at the entrance who told me about Educational Pathways International (EPI) scholarship program. I downloaded the form as soon as I got to my hostel, filled it, and submitted it to the office the next day. To cut the story short, I was among the few privileged students to be selected for the EPI scholarship.

Right from childhood, I've always loved science and I see science as a medium to help people and by

getting admission into Medical School, my dream is gradually becoming a reality. One way I plan to do this is by setting up a mobile clinic network in the future that will operate mainly within rural communities.

I must admit Medical School would have been very difficult for me if I hadn't met EPI. Before I joined EPI, I used to worry a lot about my education and the future, so getting this scholarship has been of great help to me, and it has given me the peace of mind I need to study. The Covid-19 pandemic affected my parents financially but with the help of EPI, I'm still in school with no worries and studying very hard for my end-of-rotation exams which I'll be taking in two weeks' time.

Being in EPI is not just about the financial aid, there's so much more. I've personally learnt so much about social issues and personal development through our monthly meetings. I get to meet and interact with other beneficiaries of EPI. Now I can say for a fact that my problem-solving skills and confidence level have improved significantly. I have also learned about savings and good investment strategies.

I will forever be grateful to EPI for restoring my hope when I needed it the most. The future looks bright and it's all thanks to EPI!