

## JOHN AMINU



My name is John Aminu, a proud Educational Pathways International (EPI) beneficiary. I graduated from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana. I completed my undergraduate studies in Civil Engineering with a first-class honor.

I was awarded scholarship by Educational Pathways International (EPI) in my sophomore year in March 2022. Being part of the scholarship programme for the past two years has been a life-changing opportunity. Before joining the EPI family, life as a university student was very hard for me due to financial constraints. After joining the EPI family, I only had to focus on my academics while EPI took care of all my

financial needs in school: housing, payment of academic fees, text books, clothing, health care and food. The days I could not afford a three-square meal or miss lectures due to financial constraints ended, thanks to EPI. I was able to participate in internship programs since my transportation and food was covered. This helped me gain more skills and field experience in Civil Engineering and to appreciate the link between theoretical knowledge and field practice.

Also, after joining EPI, my grades kept improving every semester as I need to worry about my academics only. I never had to miss lectures, group discussions or sacrifice my study periods to do part-time jobs to support my education; it was very challenging to be doing part-time jobs and also schooling simultaneously.

I also received academic and social counselling which helped me improve in my academics and social life. Before joining EPI, I did not know how to speak in public. During one of our seminars, Miss Eunice Adjoa Eghan, the National Director of the EPI program, made a presentation on public speaking and how to overcome stage fright. Now, I can speak effectively in public without fear or panic. Also, I have learned good time management, leadership skills, entrepreneurship, CV writing, and many more through seminars.

Through EPI, I received a new laptop which helped me in my field of study rather relying on friends to do my assignments and join online class session. Getting a laptop from EPI also helped me learn computer software such as ETABS, STAAD.Pro, ProtaStructure, MathCAD which are very important in the field of practice as a structural engineer.

Being part of the EPI family is not only about financial support, but also transforming young talents into future leaders. provides career guidance and counselling, seminars, and internships which ushers us into a bright and promising career after school. EPI beneficiaries get the opportunity to start building their careers in their field of study even before graduating.

I first started preparing myself for a career in architecture but later I realized that civil engineering was a more practical choice for me. After successfully entering the college of my choice for my undergraduate studies in civil engineering I realized that it was the perfect option.

Civil engineering is one of the fields where one's work can be seen and felt directly by the senses, and it illustrates a magical power in effecting radical social and economic changes. This fascinated me and caused me to choose a career in civil engineering.

In this ever-changing world of Engineering and Technology, where each new day sees a spate of new concepts and applications and each passing day makes them obsolete, I want to attain the highest level of education and transcend new horizons in the field of Civil Engineering. The vast application potential and tremendous scope for high career in civil engineering fascinates me and I am keen to continue my academic pursuit in this field.

It is my career goal to become a university professor and a registered practicing structural engineer. To achieve my career goal, I have to pursue a Master's degree and PhD in Structural Engineering. This further education will equip me with the needed knowledge, skill, and qualification to be certified as a professional engineer and also become a university professor.

As a university professor and a professional engineer, I will be able to train young engineers both in classroom and in the field of practice. The knowledge and skills acquired will help contribute to the infrastructural development of Ghana which will promote socio-economic growth of the country. I will also help train Ghana's next generation of leaders by promoting education in Ghana through EPI and other non-governmental agencies, especially in deprived communities.

I am very grateful to the Educational Pathways International for their unending financial and academic support in my university studies. I would not have been able to complete my undergraduate studies without EPI. I will forever be in debt to EPI.