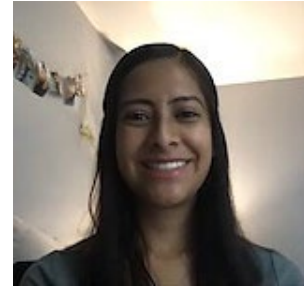




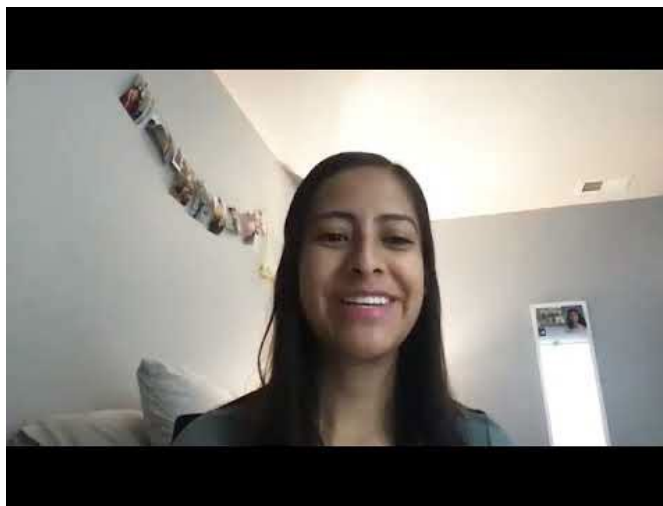
Tania Huerta Chagoyan
Aurora University
ACI General Scholarship



Tania Huerta Chagoyan of Streamwood, Illinois, remembers the nurses who helped her through health-related issues when she was growing up. That is one of the reasons that Huerta Chagoyan chose nursing as her major at nearby [Aurora University](#). "I want to help the kids that were like me growing up having a lot of health issues," she says.

A bilingual student in Spanish and English, Huerta Chagoyan says she also chose Aurora because of its small classes and close-knit community. Plus, the university's nursing program has a good reputation, with a high student passing rate on the National Council Licensure Examination, the standard for nursing licensure.

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Her family, especially her brother Erick, help motivate her to do well in school, she says. "He's an accountant. I'm really proud of him, and he's the one who really inspires me to

pursue my education. He's always motivating me and always helping me out, giving me advice to continue on with my education," Huerta Chagoyan says.

2020 was a difficult year for her. "Because of Covid, I lost my job. I was working as a waitress, and all restaurants were shut down. I didn't know how I was going to pay for school. I saw my financial award letter, and I owed a pretty significant amount for this upcoming year. I started getting really worried," she says. Huerta Chagoyan's parents help with living expenses, but much of the responsibility for college tuition falls on her.

She was awarded an ACI General Scholarship, along with other scholarships. "It really helped me because I knew that I wasn't going to be as financially strained, but also I could focus more on my education. I didn't have to put my education aside to be financially stable," Huerta Chagoyan says.

This year, her fortunes changed. She's working as a receptionist in the health-care clinic, setting up appointments and dealing with paperwork. It helps that she's working in a setting with medical assistants and nurse practitioners. "I like it a lot just because I get more of a feel of what it's like to be in health care. You get more hands-on experience with patients," she says. In the future, Huerta Chagoyan hopes to attend graduate school and possibly become a nurse practitioner.

Huerta Chagoyan is grateful for donors who make scholarships, such as her ACI scholarship, possible. "Thanks to them and their help, they help students like me continue in their college education uninterrupted and being able to really focus on their educational goal and being able to accomplish that," she says.

Away from school, Huerta Chagoyan volunteers at her church, St. Ansgar Roman Catholic Church, Hanover Park, Illinois, where she and her family help raise funds for the parish through Sunday food sales.