

My name is Nina Morales, and I am a current second year veterinary student at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine. I believe I have a need for this scholarship because it will help me to continue to pursue my future and long-term goals of becoming a companion animal general practitioner. As a first generation Hispanic student, I have been grateful to receive the opportunity to pursue a career of my choice. While neither of my parents have been to college, they have always been my biggest supporters. I have worked hard to follow my dreams in order to show that I can make a difference in veterinary medicine and leave a long lasting impression. This current year has been particularly difficult due to medical expenses surrounding my father, making affording veterinary school and housing more challenging. Medical care became a concern in spring of this year and my father is still currently undergoing treatment for severe kidney and prostate disease that had an aggressive onset. This scholarship will provide peace of mind and help towards affording college in order for me to continue to reach my academic and career goals. By putting it towards my education, I hope to continue to be an active asset of Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

With this scholarship, I will be able to keep my focus on my education and extracurriculars involved in the Cornell community. I hope that I will feel secure enough that I can continue to be a leader in my clubs including Integrative Medicine Club and the Latin Veterinary Medical Association. I am an active part of these clubs in order to expand my experiences and knowledge in other topics such as herbal medicine and how underserved groups are represented in veterinary medicine. As president of our school's Integrative Medicine Club, a student chapter of the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association, I have a strong interest in complementary medicine. As I continue to learn about veterinary medicine, I have pursued expanding my education into holistic medicine. I would like to be able to further my education at Chi University and pursue certification in acupuncture. In the future, I plan to practice companion animal medicine in general practice, and I hope to be able to offer many alternative therapeutic modalities to my patients' treatment plans. With my knowledge and education, I plan to be actively involved in animal welfare topics including animal protection laws and abuse legislation. I would like to educate my local community on humane treatment and safety of all animals in order to inform the public. While I practice in a clinic, I would like to engage in care

programs for animals in need and educate the community on animal welfare issues. My lifelong goal is to use my education to advance animal welfare through advocacy and service to the public. This scholarship would not only help with the expense of my worthwhile education, but it would help countless families and their pets to come. I appreciate your consideration in this scholarship and am grateful to be considered for this opportunity.