

Graciela Cano



Admissions Representative Bedboard Hoag Hospital Newport Beach

- Years at Hoag: 2
- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in social work
- Will be the first in her family to graduate college
- Volunteers to support homeless and underrepresented social groups



Dear Kingston Technology,

My name is Graciela Cano, and I am a third-year student at California State University, Los Angeles. I wanted to express my gratitude for being awarded the 2022 Kingston Technology–Hoag Classic Scholarship this year as it will allow me to continue to further my education and become a social worker. As a full-time student and full-time employee, I have faced various challenges throughout the year, such as grieving the loss of my grandfather, balancing work and academics and accumulating student debt. This scholarship will allow me to focus more on furthering my education and professional goals and worry less about the financial burden.

I have had the unique opportunity to work with patients and clinical teams to deliver high quality services that make a difference in our patients' recovery. I have also gained valuable experience with connecting uninsured patients to county programs that will help cover their medical expenses. My background in patient advocate services and admissions has positioned me to better understand the importance social work

has on the quality of patient care and health outcomes. Obtaining a degree in social work will provide me with greater access and additional opportunities to serve my community as well as prepare me to pursue a master's degree in clinical social work.

While working at Hoag Hospital, I have come to admire how medical and clinical staff work together to ensure the physical, emotional and social well-being of their patients. I know that I can reach my fullest potential as a part of the Hoag team. This scholarship has truly made a meaningful contribution towards my professional development. I come from a low-income family, and being a first-generation student, this scholarship means so much because it represents the hard work I have invested in myself and my future.

Thank you very much for your generosity.
Graciela Cano