



# Patricia Phillips

## Clinical Lab Scientist Trainee

- Years at Hoag: 9
- Utilized scholarship support to receive certification and license as a clinical lab scientist
- Immigrated from Canada
- Views this scholarship as a testament to Hoag's support for its lab force, empowering female scientists and moms

Dear Kingston Technology,

I began my journey at Hoag in 2013 as a laboratory assistant in microbiology after moving from my hometown of Québec City, Canada. As my drive for furthering my education in science grew, so did my family. My husband and I welcomed our three beautiful children to the world from 2014 to 2017. Fast-forward to 2021, I was accepted into the CLS internship program here at Hoag and completed 52 weeks in clinical training, passed the board exam and obtained my certification and license in September 2022.

I am now working full time in the Blood Bank at Hoag Newport and am bringing my knowledge to deliver high-quality patient care. I have been privileged to train under exceptionally skilled laboratorians, which fuels my desire to excel academically and professionally, and I am encouraged to pay it forward to future CLS students one day. Receiving this financial aid alleviated quite a few life burdens as I was going through schooling full time while being a full-time wife and mother of three. This scholarship and your support mean so much to me. The CLS profession, although highly in demand and

crucial to patient care, is still often overlooked and underrecognized, making it one of the most difficult positions in health care to recruit. Seventy-five percent of diagnoses are based on results generated by the lab, and without a CLS, the lab cannot operate. There are currently 17,000 clinical lab scientists in the California workforce. Forty percent of them are aged 58 or older, and California only graduates about 240 clinical lab scientists per year.

Your support not only helps individuals like me achieve their goals but also affirms to my peers in the profession that we are seen and valued. For these reasons, I am so thankful for Kingston Technology making funds available and testifying your support for Hoag's laboratory force, a field predominantly steered by women of science.

With gratitude,  
Patricia Phillips,  
CLS, MLS (ASCP) CM

