

2023 Alice Lawson Scholarship Winner



The 2023 Alice Scholarship recipient is **Elizabeth M. Rivera** of Philadelphia. Elizabeth is presently enrolled at West Chester University in their accelerated program, working simultaneously towards Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Public Health. Elizabeth anticipates graduating in May 2024. Prior to her enrollment at West Chester University, Elizabeth received an Associate of Science degree in Public Health from Montgomery County Community College, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Elizabeth acknowledges that her past academic journey was full of challenges and inconsistency. Elizabeth is a remarkable person, who while working as a licensed esthetician, has maintained an impressive GPA and attained Dean's List status during the 2022 fall semester at West Chester University. While attending Montgomery Community College, Elizabeth was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society for two-year students and Tri Alpha, an honor society for first-generation students. She was also chairperson for SAGA (sexual and gender acceptance).

Elizabeth's professional goals include a future working to provide "public health education to Black, brown, and LGBTQ communities". Elizabeth strongly believes that basic needs, such as: shelter and healthcare, should not feel like a privilege, but a right. Elizabeth hopes to use her education as a tool to provide resources and improve the health of communities in need.

Her professor at West Chester University, Chiwoneso Beverly Tinago, remarked that Elizabeth is a phenomenal student, who not only did exceptionally well on her course assignments, but was also an excellent leader to students in the class. As a result of these qualities, Elizabeth was selected to represent WCU at the 2023 American Mock World Health Organization Conference in April 2023 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Tinago commented that Elizabeth is a woman leader who will positively impact the field of public health.

Elizabeth was introduced at the Spring Fling – Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony held at McKenzie Brew House on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.