

# Cook Achievement Fund Coversheet

(To Be Submitted with Proposal)

Name: Tatiana Cleffi IUP Campus Email fwrbc@iup.edu

Banner ID: @03868978 Home/Cell Phone 215-813-1003

Major: Nursing 2nd Major/Minor: Certificate in Spanish Safety Sciences Grad. Year: 2024

Date of application: 2/9/22 Date funds needed: March 31st Date(s) of activity: 6/4/22-7/2/22

Total Cost of Activity: \$6,440 Amount you/your family will contribute: \$1,000  
("Zero" is not an acceptable amount.)

Amount Requested of HC Achievement Fund to make the activity possible: \$5,440 OX

I am currently in good academic standing in the CHC (i.e. not on probation) and will have been in good standing for two consecutive semesters by the date funds are needed. **YES/NO**

### One sentence description of proposal including name of program for which you need support:

I hope to attend CEA's Medical Spanish program at Veritas University in San Jose, Costa Rica to prepare to become a medical interpreter in addition to a nurse.

For the purposes of financial aid and bookkeeping – not the value of the program, please answer the following:

1. Will you receive academic credits from IUP for this proposal? **YES/NO**
2. Will you receive academic credits from another institution for this proposal? **YES/NO**
3. Do you currently receive financial aid in the form of grants or subsidized loans? **YES/NO**

I have discussed this proposal and its implications for my future with a Professor in my major or minor.

Faculty signature/Department verifying this  Meigan Robb, PhD, RN - Nursing

### I have attached to this cover sheet (each page numbered and listing your name):

1. Cover Sheet & Signature page
2. Personal statement (a written description of your interests, background, achievements, aspirations, etc.)
3. Proposal for how funds will be used. This includes:
  - A description of what the enhancement experience will be;
  - A justification for this specific experience;
  - A breakdown of costs in table form
4. Resume / vita
5. Four-year plan to be written from the time you are making the request for support

### If my proposal is accepted, I agree to:

- Write a thank you note to donors whose financial contributions helped fund my experience.
- Participate in the CHC graduation ceremony.
- Participate in the Pre-professional Career Workshop held in the week prior to the start of an upcoming academic year (so in August). Failure to participate in this workshop may result in the retroactive pulling of Achievement Funding which I must pay back.
- Make every effort to pay back this money after graduation as donations to the HC.**

Signature: Tatiana Cleffi

# ACHIEVEMENT FUND SIGNATURE SHEET

## PERPETUATE THE GIFT

**B**ORN OF THE GENEROSITY OF A SINGLE IUP ALUMNUS, THE ROBERT E. COOK ACHIEVEMENT FUND HAS ENRICHED THE LIVES OF MANY. HAVING HAD YOUR APPLICATION FOR ACHIEVEMENT MONIES ACCEPTED AND APPROVED, YOU NOW BELONG TO THAT FOREMOST GROUP TO WHICH OTHERS LIKE YOURSELF WILL TURN FOR FUTURE HELP IN LIKewise ENRICHING AND ENHANCING THEIR LIFE'S JOURNEY.

**R**OBERT E. COOK AND HC ALUMNI HAVE PROVIDED THE INITIAL RESOURCES TO ALLOW YOU THIS OPPORTUNITY. THROUGH THEIR PHILANTHROPY, YOU AND MANY OTHERS ENJOY THE WARMTH OF A FIRE WHICH WILL NOW BECOME YOUR HONORABLE RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP KEEP AFLAME. WITHOUT PERPETUATION OF THIS SAME KINDNESS, OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS THIS CANNOT ENDURE.

IN SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TO HELP PERPETUATE THIS GIFT. IN DOING SO, YOU ARE NEITHER LEGALLY NOR CONTRACTUALLY OBLIGATED TO REMIT ANY PAYMENT, AT ANY TIME IN YOUR LIFE. IN ADDITION, THIS DOCUMENT IN NO WAY DISCOURAGES YOU FROM ALSO RIGHTFULLY APPLYING FOR FURTHER MONIES.

**R**ATHER, IT IS A CHALLENGE TO WHICH FUTURE CLASSES WILL LOOK TO WITH HOPE. WHETHER OR NOT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A SIMILAR CONTRIBUTION IS OF LESS SIGNIFICANCE THAN YOUR PERSONAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE IDEA THAT HAS EVEN ALLOWED YOU THIS OPPORTUNITY – THE IDEA OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE.

**IN UNDERSTANDING, AND WITH FULL SUPPORT OF THE IDEA OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, I AM:**

ACHIEVEMENT FUND RECIPIENT

*Tatiana Cleffi*

**Personal Statement**  
**Achievement Fund Request: Medical Spanish Program in Costa Rica**

The toucans overhead make their indescribable distinct, low croak. The sun pokes through the leaves of the rainforest, tickling my skin. The fresh, black coffee- the only kind that I can ever drink without my usual cream and sugar- keeps me wide awake, even though this natural beauty would capture me regardless. I hear the river rushing in the distance, and I know that the cold water will both shock and refresh me. A rewarding treat after this treacherous hike, if you will. The dogs- leashless, for very few believe in such a phenomenon here- rush past me, doubling back every so often. My friend, Leo, swings his machete to clear a path for us as we go.

This is “la pura vida”- the pure life, the national saying of Costa Rica. This beautiful country is the birthplace of my mother.

I always say “ser Tica es el mejor regalo que mi madre me ha dado,” which translates to “being Tica (the term for Costa Rican) is the best gift my mother has ever given me.” I have always felt a strong connection to this place- from the people, the food, the music, the way of life, and the overall culture. Being Costa Rican is something I fully embrace, from learning Spanish as my second language to better communicate with my family, to learning how to dance bachata, cumbia, and salsa, some of the traditional dances in the country. It is the reason I became the vice president of the Latino Student Organization last year, and the driving factor in aspects of my career aspirations.

When I was twelve years old, my father- a United States born and raised, Italian and Irish mix- had a hemorrhagic stroke. This shifted my entire world as I knew it, forcing me to mature faster than I ever thought I would have to. After spending four months in the hospital and visiting him every day, I could not believe the miraculous recovery he experienced: doctors proclaimed he had a five percent chance of living prior to his emergency surgery, and, if he did live, he would never walk again. Now, my father can walk, drive, and function completely normally with minimal weakness on his left side.

It is because of my father’s incredible healthcare team that he has the life he does today. This experience inspired me. I realized that I too would like to help others in the way my father was helped, and this is why I chose to study nursing.

One of my passions is representing and advocating for the Latinx community. A current issue in nursing- and overall healthcare- is the existing language barrier. Despite the modern

technology in the world today, language difference is still the main barrier that blocks non-English speakers from receiving the care they need. Thus, due to my experience as a Latina woman in the United States, as well as being someone extremely proud of my culture, I would love to make a difference with this current issue by providing care for Spanish-speaking patients through not only being a nurse, but a medical interpreter as well.

One of the foundations of who I am as a person- aside from my culture and past occurrences in my life- is my faith. Although I grew up attending church, it was not until I came to Indiana for college that I decided to truly dedicate my life to God. While this looks different to everyone, to me, this means treating everyone with the love and respect that Jesus did. This means truly everyone, regardless of their beliefs or background. This fundamental belief is something I will incorporate in my career when providing care as a nurse: treating others with compassion, love, kindness, and respect.

Having the strong sense of identity that I do as a Christian, a Latina, a nursing student, and a bilingual first-generation college student, I believe that the world is full of endless opportunities and that there is no limit to the difference I can make. I believe that God opens doors, which is why I aspire to study medical Spanish in Costa Rica this summer. Not only will I earn the credit hours required to become a medical interpreter, but I will also be given the opportunity to grow closer to my culture. I feel confident that one day I will be able to make an impact- no matter how big or small- by providing culturally competent care to those who need it the most, by utilizing their language and treating them with love as a result of making the most of my educational opportunities.



**Proposal**  
**Achievement Fund Request: Medical Spanish Program in Costa Rica**

CEA's Medical Spanish program includes a partnership with Veritas University, located outside of the capital of Costa Rica, San Jose. I applied for the four-week program, during which I would take a Medical Spanish and Health Sciences program at a level determined by a placement test. As a native speaker, I aim to be placed in the advanced level (level 300) if possible. This program would run this summer from June 4th to July 2nd. Veritas University is an international college in Costa Rica, in which the majority of its students come from abroad to study, which would allow me to connect with students from all over the world. This course would provide me with four credits and sixty credit hours upon completion. The requirement to take the medical interpreter exam is sixty credit hours of medical language courses, so this course would fulfill my prerequisite requirement to take this exam. I would be staying with a local host family in the area, which would aid me in better connecting with my culture as well. I will be attending a roughly three-hour class Monday through Friday throughout the duration of the program.

I am a sophomore level nursing major with a certificate in Spanish for Safety Sciences. This is a new program in the Spanish department, which includes general Spanish courses, safety science courses, and Spanish courses geared towards learning and practicing vocabulary and conversation in safety, health, and environmental applied science fields in recognition of the growing number of Spanish-speakers in the United States workforce.

Due to my career aspirations as a medical interpreter and nurse, this program would be greatly beneficial to me by providing the credit hours needed to take the exam to become a medical interpreter and equipping me with the medical terminology in Spanish that I would need to provide care to patients in this language. Additionally, being immersed in the culture of Costa Rica will allow me to practice my Spanish not only in the classroom setting, but throughout all aspects of my day for a month, which would aid me to better help Spanish-speaking patients one day.

**Costs & Fees**  
**Achievement Fund Request: Medical Spanish Program in Costa Rica**

| Category  | Cost (\$)         |
|---|-------------------|
| Program Cost (Tuition)<br>-1 Course, 4 week program   | \$4,795           |
| Airfare (Newark, NJ to San Jose, CR)<br>-Estimate based on current flights from American Airlines and United                                  | \$650             |
| Books, Materials, and Supplies (for class)  | \$50              |
| Meals<br>(lunch is not provided by host family, estimate based on my own knowledge of cost of food in CR and estimated based on 4 wks. worth) | \$300             |
| Personal Expenses (Laundry, telephone, local travel such as bus)  | \$300             |
| CEA Application Fee   | \$95              |
| IUP Study Abroad Application Fee  | \$250             |
| Amt. I can put forth: \$1,000<br>Amt. requested from CHC Achievement Fund: \$5,440  | Total:<br>\$6,440 |

**Status of Arrangement**  
**Achievement Fund Request: Medical Spanish Program in Costa Rica**

I applied for and have been accepted into CEA's Medical Spanish program at Veritas University for this upcoming summer. I have paid an application fee for CEA of \$95 and an additional application fee for IUP of \$250. The rest of my tuition is due by March 31st. I will need to purchase airfare in advance, so I have factored this into the amount that I will personally be contributing. Currently, my plan is to pay out of pocket for airfare and not request funding from my parents due to financial reasons.