

A Decade of Medical Laboratory Science Scholarships Realized

In its tenth year, the American Proficiency Institute (API) scholarship program announced the winners of its 2017 contest. Five students enrolled in medical laboratory science programs across the United States were awarded funds to further their education.

“The caliber of students entering the medical laboratory science profession continues to impress me,” noted Daniel C. Edson, President of API. “This year’s scholarship winners are particularly inspirational. From growing up in a homeless shelter to regularly donating blood as a means of giving back, they all found a calling for the clinical laboratory profession.”

API awarded \$2,000 scholarships to: Heather Hansen, a junior at Texas State University; Danielle Hulett, a junior at the University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth; Hannah Messer, a senior at Oakland University; Karina Pizzelanti, a senior at Rutgers School of Health Professions; and Demi Veliz, a senior at the University of Texas at El Paso.

After learning that a soccer team of complete strangers volunteered to donate blood to assist her family, Ms. Veliz began to volunteer too. “Once I started donating blood, I became more and more fascinated with blood and blood types,” she said. It led her to an interest in the medical laboratory science field.

Ms. Hansen says that medical laboratory science is “the hidden profession that saves lives.” After enduring years of bullying, the medical laboratory provides her with a voice. “I am a hero in training,” she explains. Ms. Hansen rose to become the President of her campus’ Partnership for Research and Education in Materials.

“We are proud to support the future of the laboratory profession through these API scholarships,” added Edson.