

Dear Bautista Family,

Thank you for the opportunity to receive a scholarship this year to continue my education at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. I am a current junior at Cristo Rey, and it's been a stressful start. November is the month of Thanksgiving, which is the month of being thankful. Me and my family are super thankful that we had the opportunity to receive more help because we were paying the full \$280 a month. Post pandemic, my tuition has skyrocketed because we had government help for a few months which caused my tuition to go up. My dad lost his job, so my mom is the only person who is supporting the entire family. We are a family of four, so everything is costly, especially now with inflation. I had a job this summer to help my mom with bills and other utilities. I learned how to cook and learned that money doesn't come easily, which had me saving money for the school year. The best part of having a job was being able to take my family out to dinner and paying for it with my hard-earned money. I hope that next summer I'll be able to get a job again, in order to help around the house again. This scholarship has already helped my mom save money and it has gone to other important bills, and food. It's good to know that I don't have to worry about filling out a check every month to continue my education.

I am a Junior and for the past year, I've been working at LKQ corporation, a consumer good company located in downtown Chicago, helping all types of departments with extra tasks they may need done, but also shredding paper since my coworkers print a lot of confidential papers. It has been a really good experience working there because I realized that accounting is not for me, but I am super thankful to have the opportunity to experience what an office job feels like. An extracurricular I do at school is student council. Later in the spring I am planning on joining the drama club for the spring play again, as a Junior I need to prepare for the Spanish AP test, I am nervous about it.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Thank you again Bautista Family for this generous scholarship.

Sincerely,

Emily Zamora