

June 1, 2018

Army Women's Foundation
P.O. Box 5030
Fort Lee, VA 23801

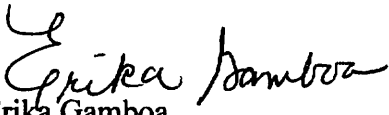
Dear Scholarship Committee,

This letter is to thank everyone involved with selecting and funding me as a recipient of the Army Women's Foundation Legacy Scholarship. I recently met with my academic advisor to enroll in Fall 2018 courses. As I submitted my class schedule, I was not only excited to be a step closer to graduation but for once since starting the PhD program, I have been able to breathe a sigh of relief knowing that my classes will be paid in full. As I type these words, tears roll down my eyes because I know that for next year, I will be financially stable. I am truly honored and thankful to receive this award.

As an advisor, I have been able to relate to the financial struggles many military-affiliated students endure throughout their education. I watch them stress but encourage all of them to apply for scholarships. This is the first and only scholarship I have applied for during my graduate studies. I have always felt that other veterans are more deserving. However, what made me apply for this specific scholarship is its dedication to the legacy of Army women. I am honored to have served in the Army and to have been the first and only person in my family to join the military. I have fond memories of my time in service but I am most thankful to use my experiences to help veterans of all branches, including dependents of veterans, as they transition into college.

I am excited that this scholarship will help me complete my PhD in Public Policy which I hope to use to become a faculty member at a college or university within our great Nation. I am thankful for all those who have supported me along my professional and personal life. Therefore, to the staff of the Army Women's Foundation, **THANK YOU** for all your hard work and dedication to the legacy of Army women. With all that your Foundation does to help support the Museum, research projects, and scholarships, your work validates the importance of honoring the legacy of Army women. To the wonderful donors who generously provide funding for the Foundation's projects and especially the scholarship I have been awarded, I whole-heartily say **THANK YOU!** You have helped pave the path to completing my degree.

With much thanks and appreciation,


Erika Gamboa
United States Army Reserves Veteran