

Success Story

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My story begins when I was 18 years old. I graduated from a secondary school in Hurghada with 92%. I wished studying Engineering, but my score was not enough to do so. Therefore, I joined faculty of commerce, Helwan University- department of Business information system. Starting from this point in my life, I knew that **a little bit more work, could make the difference**. I missed engineering and informatics for just few marks. I begin the journey at Helwan University by studying harder than I did in secondary school. After the first year, I was one of the top ten students in my department and I got excellent grades.

I spent the next summer in Hurghada with my family doing voluntary activities. One of these activities announced an opportunity to continue for a bachelor degree with a scholarship from USAID. They announced **LOTUS Scholarship Program**. My family encouraged me to apply. I applied and after a long selection process, I got accepted in 2010 to study at **Pharos University in Alexandria (PUA), faculty of financial and administrative sciences**. I continued to study hard; the scholarship helped me with English courses. Besides, LOTUS built a special program called **Leadership in Action Program**. I got the opportunity to improve my personal skills (**leadership, team building, communication skills, time management ...etc.**) through sessions, seminars, workshops, and conferences trips. In 2012, I honored to study a semester abroad through the generous support of LOTUS scholarship. I studied at Western Michigan University, MI, USA.

In 2013, I graduated from PUA with the highest GPA in my class. Later on, I begin a new phase of my life. My goals were: Keep learning - Start working as soon as possible – Work in finance - Get a scholarship for master degree abroad. Just after 2 months, I joined a Gold Shop to work as an accountant in Hurghada. In 2014, after 10 months at the Gold Shop, I picked an opportunity at a company named Wild Guanabana Founded by Omar Samra. After three months of hard work, a new department has been established (finance department) and I became a financial manager! One of the things that made a difference during my work was the **Leadership in Action Program** sessions. In any problem, I was thinking that if my colleagues or managers took those sessions, they would not have been in trouble.

In 2015, I left the company to take one-step further towards my goal. I awarded a fully funded scholarship to study master's degree in **Masaryk University, Czech Republic**; my journey at the Czech Republic started on 23rd of September, 2015.

You can consider this is my success story but I have not succeeded yet. All I would encourage you to do is to **take initiatives, do a few career sessions that make difference**, and **enjoy the difficulties in your journey**.

Thanks to **Lotus** Scholarship ... Thanks to **PUA** ... **Many Thanks GOD**