

Why I Joined ANC Education?

“Peer recommendations, unrivaled U.S. education system, and ANC’s generous scholarship enticed me into ANC’s U.S. Transfer Program,” says Rakitha Malewana, an internationally acclaimed scientist.

21-year-old Rakitha Malewana is a young scientist looking forward to continue his higher studies in the U.S.A. It was his childhood habit of immersing himself in a good book in his spare time that led him to develop an interest in science and medical journals that could ignite his interest and curiosity in medical research, which led him to become the first high school student in Sri Lanka to conduct a research in Medical and Molecular Biology. He’s been in the limelight following his successful discovery and development of therapies for HIV/ AIDS and Leukemia. ANC takes pride in welcoming this prodigy to ANC’s US Transfer Program.

Rakitha had completed his A Levels in the science stream at Nalanda College, Colombo before he was chosen to the University of Ruhuna where he had been reading for a Bachelor’s in Science degree for one year before he realized that it was only through ANC’s US Transfer Program he could achieve his personal and career goals. ANC offered him a merit scholarship of 50% in recognition of his achievements.

ANC Education, since its inception in 2002, has offered several avenues of assistance that enhances the academic success of every student. The merit scholarship program was introduced in an effort to meet the needs of promising and deserving students seeking a challenging college experience. Recipients are identified through evaluation of admission application materials including academic achievement, extracurricular activities, awards, honors, etc.

Rakitha’s accomplishments have been recognized not only by his Alma Mater, Nalanda College and the president and the government of Sri Lanka: he is the first Sri Lankan to bag two gold medals at International Science Olympiads for his research using nanotechnology to cure leukemia, which was also chosen to represent Sri Lanka at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair 2014 held in the U.S.A. “Above all, winning the Queen’s Young Leaders Award 2016, presented by the Queen Elizabeth 11, for my work in the fields of HIV/ AIDS and social engagement, which enabled me to meet 60 exceptional young leaders from across the commonwealth at the Buckingham Palace besides my two week stay at the Cambridge University is a dream come true,” says Rakitha, who is also a ballet dancer, dubbing artist, voice artist and TV host attached to Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation as well as several other TV and Radio networks in Sri Lanka.

Rakitha discusses why he chose ANC for his higher studies:

There are three reasons why I opted for ANC's US Transfer Program: first, it was my best friend who recommended ANC's transfer program. He studied at ANC and transferred to SUNY Oswego, one of the best US universities to continue his degree in Biochemistry. He says his two year stay at ANC is one of the best periods of his academic career, and ANC ensured a smooth transfer.

Second, it's the US education system. There are about 4500 universities that provide so many learning options for students. Also, they are so flexible that they have changed with new generations of students and our evolving world. And students are allowed to study a range of subjects in the first two years before choosing a major. To illustrate this, an engineering student takes a number of nonengineering courses including English Composition, History, World Cultures, Critical Thinking etc. This ensures success in future careers. Next, the opportunities for research. US universities encourage students to work on research projects from day one, and they are guided by renowned researchers and scholars in the world. Students receive research scholarships and acknowledgement of their work through publications, presentations, or other forms of public recognition. All in all, it's the strongest education system in the world.

Third, ANC offered me a merit scholarship of 50% in recognition of my accomplishments. It's also a big plus as this eased the financial burden on my parents and made a world-class education an attainable goal.

ANC has made providing support for education a cornerstone of its social responsibility program. Students who receive scholarships are supported until they complete their undergraduate studies provided that they remain inspired and maintain the required grade point average (GPA). Available financial assistance includes need based financial grants; merit based scholarships; low interest, long term loans from external sources; and monthly payment plans, everything to ensure that students remain motivated and inspired throughout their academic career.

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