

ERICA M. Mesa, AZ -age 37 Arizona State University Keep Your Chin Up Scholarship: \$2,700 66

In 2006, I began a career in banking as a part-time teller at Wells Fargo Bank. Within a year, I was promoted to a management role and decided that it was what I wanted to do long-term. At that time, I did not think that going back to school was too important. As I have continued my career and now have teenage children, I realize how important education is and what a privilege it is to have an opportunity to pursue a college degree.

My previous academic goal was to complete my associate degree in business which I accomplished in January of 2024 and graduated with high distinction. Now that I have transferred to ASU, I will continue working towards my bachelor's degree."