



# Sophomore Scholarship Winner



## Allyson McConnell

Grade:	Sophomore
Major:	Kinesiology
Hometown:	Westminster, Colorado
Synergy Classes:	COM 1010, 22015, FYS: Impacts of Social Media
Goal after College	I hope to attend graduate school (somewhere warm) and become a Physician Assistant

### Excerpt from Essay

As a young child, I was given up for adoption. I came from a family devoured by poverty and addiction. My biological mother wanted me to have a better life so she gave me to a very loving mother and father who could give me everything that my biological family could not. The highest level of education my biological family had ever achieved was eighth grade. Therefore, I was extremely motivated to pursue a college education so that if I am ever reunited with my biological family, I can thank

them for giving me up for adoption because if it was not for them. I would not be where I am today. And what better way to thank them than by showing them how successful I was after graduating college? My main motivation to earning a college degree is to make both of my families proud of me and my accomplishments. I believe that college will only positively impact my future. Not only will I have been able to overcome every obstacle that was in my way, but I will also be the first one in my biological

family to earn a bachelor's degree and that is an accomplishment in itself. Graduating college will not guarantee me a job, it will most certainly increase the chances of me getting one. Most importantly, graduating college will be an amazing experience that I would never have been able to acquire if I was never adopted and I am truly honored that I am able to share that experience at the University of Wyoming.