

## **Manulife Life Lessons Scholarship recipient Jackie E. - video transcript**

My life lesson is that resiliency pays off. My mother's dreams for me was to live an easier life than hers. She did not want me to struggle and fight as much as she did. That's why she always reminded me to keep my education first. By December of my first semester of university, my mom had passed away from cancer. If my mother had had life insurance, things would have been a lot easier for both me and my siblings. I would have been able to go to school without thinking of money so much and funeral costs would have been paid for. When I found the Manulife Life Lessons Scholarship, I was in shock. I thought this is exactly my life and I did not understand or realize that there were other people who went through what I went through. It felt like someone wanted to hear my story for the first time. The process of applying to the Manulife Life Lessons Scholarship was easy. The difficult part was thinking about all the life lessons I've had to learn thus far. Before I had this scholarship, I was working 3 jobs and had 16-hour long days with school and work. Since I got the scholarship, I've been able to focus more on school, I haven't had to work as much, and I've been able to get involved in the community a lot more. My life lesson is resiliency pays off because there were many times I wanted to quit and give up but it was resiliency that kept me motivated. I am very much my mother's daughter. She never gave up and neither will I. To someone thinking of applying to the Manulife Life Lessons Scholarship, my advice is to just do it. It will change your life as much as it's changed mine.