

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NINE PPS GRADUATES RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM INDEPENDENT CHEMICAL CORPORATION

Recipients are currently in college pursuing science-related majors

PATERSON – Nine 2022 graduates of Paterson Public Schools high schools have received partial scholarships courtesy of the Independent Chemical Corporation, based in Glendale, N.Y.

Beginning in 2018, Jonathan Spielman, the company's president, has made an annual pool of scholarship funds to be divided among district high school graduates who enroll in a college science program. Each recipient in 2022 will receive \$1,111.11.

The recipients are as follows:

Name	High School	College
Afsar Ahmed	STEM Academy (JFK)	NJ Institute of Technology
Samiha Ahmed	HARP Academy	NJ Institute of Technology
Adoni Deacon	HARP Academy	Rutgers University
Maricarmen Inoa Gonzalez	Rosa Parks High School	NJ Institute of Technology
Edwin Luna-Gonzalez	International High School	Montclair State University
Tasani Mack-Garret	Garret Morgan Academy	Kean University
MI Rifat	STEM Academy (JFK)	NJ Institute of Technology
Ariana Valverde	STEM Academy (JFK)	William Paterson University
Yolemi Villar Diaz	GOPA (EHS)	William Paterson University

“This is a wonderful expression of support for Paterson Public Schools students who are on their way to promising careers in science-related fields,” said Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer. “I want to congratulate the nine district graduates who have already made us proud by continuing their education in college. I would be remiss if I didn’t thank Mr. Spielman and everyone at the Independent Chemical Corporation for their generous support of Paterson students who aspire to achieve success in the sciences.”

Shafer also thanked District Director of Guidance and Counseling Services Tamisha McKoy for her work as liaison with the Independent Chemical Corporation, as well as all of the school counselors who helped the students obtain the scholarship.

Jonathan Spielman, President of Independent Chemical said, “My educational background was in chemical engineering, and the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education opened my eyes to the potential within each one of us. In 2018, we moved approximately 25 jobs in our warehousing operations to

Paterson and we looked for what else we could do to be a part of the community's success. I have always felt that strong schools and STEM education can enable communities and businesses to succeed, and we look forward to hearing about the great successes of our graduates!"

The opportunity was made available to any senior graduating in 2022. There was no application, just evidence of acceptance into a four-year college majoring in a science-related field.

About Paterson Public Schools

Paterson Public Schools serves about 25,000 students pre-K to 12th grade in New Jersey's third-largest city. While the Paterson community may be classified as low-income, many of its students are high-achieving. More elementary school students are reading at or above grade level, and more high school students are earning college credits through Advanced Placement exams and taking college-level courses before graduation. Paterson Public Schools stands out as one of only 17 districts in New Jersey to offer the competitive International Baccalaureate program, and one of only four districts with a P-TECH high school, a program that, in collaboration with IBM and Passaic County Community College, graduates students with an associate degree in applied science and practical tech sector experience.

About Independent Chemical Corporation

Independent Chemical Corporation was founded in 1948 by Benjamin Spielman to supply the Textile Dying Industry in New York and New Jersey. Over the last seven decades, the company has grown to supply key raw materials to the producers of cosmetics, foods, pharmaceuticals, vitamins, and more. In 2018, Independent Chemical relocated its distribution operations from Glendale, N.Y. to Paterson, with approximately 25 jobs ranging from office to warehouse staff. Independent Chemical's mission is to enable our customers to create exceptional products using the best available chemical technologies.

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