



## Lauren Aycock

*recipient of the  
Dean's Preeminence Scholarship  
Ralph Blodgett Scholarship*

*"Because of this scholarship, I have the extraordinary opportunity to pursue the specialty of my dreams and give back to my community in a meaningful way."*

My name is Lauren Aycock, and I'm a four-year medical student who grew up in Jacksonville, Florida. I earned my undergraduate degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology, where I studied biomedical engineering. I decided to attend the University of Florida College of Medicine because it felt like home when I interviewed. At UF, I felt like I was in training to be an empathetic human first, and a great doctor second, which is what I believe is most important for patient care.

My fondest memory of medical school was the eight weeks I spent on my pediatric rotation! I felt like I was a resident myself, and I loved learning from so many amazing mentors. It absolutely confirmed my decision to pursue pediatrics. I chose to pursue a career as a physician because I have spent my entire life wanting to solve problems and help people. It is a higher calling that gives me the extraordinary privilege to serve people at their lowest and provide them with extraordinary care.

Thank you so much for your generosity! I look forward to paying it forward one day. At a time when graduate school is such a financial burden, I am grateful for people like you who make it more accessible to passionate students who might otherwise never get the chance to impact the world in such a meaningful way.