



VAW/VRC Merit: Lab Realty Scholar

Sofi Cook

Lakeville, Minnesota

Sponsor: LCDR Eric C. Cook

College: UMW-Twin Cities

2025-2026: Freshman

Major: Biochemistry

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies
- String Ensemble, First Violin
- HOSA Club
- The Home Depot, Cashier
- Feline Rescue, Volunteer
- Cova Agua International Water Organization Volunteer



I am so incredibly grateful for this scholarship which has helped me towards not only my college education at the University of Minnesota but also my future career. For as long as I can remember I have had a passion for science and for helping others in my community. From this grew my goal of becoming a physician and making a positive change in medicine. For me, this scholarship will help me to take the next step in my journey toward college and support my goal of becoming a physician who not only treats patients but changes healthcare for the better. I am committed to a future where science and compassion work together, and I believe that with the help of this scholarship I can work towards my goal of making lasting and impactful change on the community around me and treating patients with both knowledge and compassion. I am honored to receive this scholarship which has relieved some of the financial burden of college and will help me to focus on my education and all the wonderful opportunities such as research and study abroad at the University of Minnesota. Thank you to all the donors and staff who have allowed the VAW/VRC Merit Scholarship program to help me and so many other students towards their dreams and goals.