

SEPTEMBER  
2022



# ECE<sup>®</sup> Aid Newsletter

*A charitable initiative developed to provide free evaluation reports for vulnerable and displaced populations.*



## Dear Friends,

I'm going to be honest with you. It was difficult to begin writing this month's newsletter. For me, the news cycle has been challenging and, at times, painful to read lately. You see every day on social media and news programs that people all over the world are struggling - from destructive hurricanes to the suppression of human rights.

Of course, there have always been and will always be troubling events. It's important to remember that much of it is out of our control. Yet, it's our obligation to be aware of what is happening to people around the world. And it's important to take all of that in and find ways in which we can help no matter how big or how small our actions are.

As we enter autumn, we find comfort, warmth, and joy in our communities and homes. Fall is a time to move inward, reflect, and nestle down for the winter. I implore you to rest and find joy amid the tidal waves of formidable news.

### *In this issue:*

**ECE<sup>®</sup> Aid Updates**

**ECE<sup>®</sup> Aid Story From  
Syrian Recipient**

Inward reflection also offers us opportunity for gratitude for all that we are able to have and do each day, even when things feel dark. Community can be a light in that darkness, and it is more important than ever right now.

We can't fix all of these things in a day. But we can truly make someone's life and their future a little bit easier. Assisting a single ECE® Aid recipient can better their life, their family, and their community. It's one of the things that keeps me active and engaged in the work we do.

Below I've included a story from our ECE® Aid archive about a dentist from Syria. His story is inspiring to me in that it shows how one person, given a little help through an evaluation fee waiver, can impact so many other lives.

Here's to rest, warmth, comfort, and inspiration for the coming months. Thank you for your positive influence on the world as a supporter of ECE and ECE® Aid.



## ECE® Aid story from Syrian recipient

*The recipient's name has been removed to protect his identity.*

"I am a dentist from Syria. I recently moved to the U.S. through the refugee program. My goal is to practice dentistry here in the U.S., so I started to go through the licensing process, which required me to have my credentials evaluated by ECE. I found out that refugees can apply for a fee

waiver, so I went through the ECE® Aid webpage and found a list of nonprofit organizations that would facilitate issuing this waiver.

The organization I contacted was [Refugees to College](#). They were very nice and very helpful. I explained to them my situation and they were very eager to provide assistance. They contacted ECE on my behalf and a week later asked me to submit my application where they had arranged with ECE for my fee to be waived. I'm grateful for ECE® Aid for introducing me to Refugees to College, as they are still assisting me with other aspects of the licensing process beyond the ECE® application.

I have since then received my ECE® evaluation report, and I'm getting ready to take the board exam. Getting licensed to practice dentistry is a long process that will take me about three years and will require various applications and fees for different agencies. It is a relief to get some of those costs waived, as it is difficult enough being a refugee to rebuild your life and to keep up with daily expenses, let alone the added expense of licensing application fees."

### ~Update~

Back in 2017, we provided an ECE® Aid fee waiver to this gentleman from Syria who is now going through the rigorous process of getting licensed in the U.S. as a medical professional.

In addition to completing the National Board Dental Exams and language proficiency tests, he has applied to multiple universities. Each application comes with its own associated fees; however, because of the generosity of our donors, we have at least been able to waive the fee each time he orders a copy of the ECE® foreign credential evaluation report to be sent to a prospective university.

More inspirational ECE® Aid stories can be found on our website by clicking here.

Assist others with an ECE® Aid fee waiver



With gratitude,

**Zachary Holochwost (he/him)**

*ECE® Aid & Market Research Manager*



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF CREDENTIAL EVALUATION  
SERVICES

**ECE®**

**Educational Credential Evaluators**

Unlocking the Promise of International Education

[ECE.org](http://ECE.org)



2018  
RECIPIENT



*For updates and news about ECE and ECE® Aid, please follow our social media accounts.*