

Mexican biotechnologist accepted to study in Saudi Arabia



Biotechnology graduate Nashiely Ojeda has been accepted to study at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology and awarded a 100% scholarship.

06/07/2026

Courtesy of Nashiely Ojeda

When **Nashiely Ojeda** arrived at [Tec de Monterrey](#), she was an introverted young woman who had recently left San Luis Potosí and was living alone in Monterrey.

Today, she is about to embark on another journey: to study for a **master's degree** at [King Abdullah University of Science and Technology \(KAUST\)](#) in Saudi Arabia.

Nashiely went to Monterrey campus to study **biotechnology**, a degree that included everything she was passionate about, with support from a 100% [Leaders of Tomorrow](#) program scholarship.

*"I was a very introverted person. I'm from San Luis Potosí and going to live alone in Monterrey and starting university made me much more open, and more extroverted. I was able to **develop skills** that later characterized me in my social circle.*

*"I chose **biotechnology** because when I was looking into all the degree options I thought at first, 'I want to study medicine, or I want to study food engineering, or I want to study environmental issues,'" she said.*

*Nashiely studied biotechnology at the Monterrey campus. PHOTO:
Courtesy of Nashiely Ojeda*



Student groups, CONECTA, sports, and more

While studying **biotechnology**, Nashiely took advantage of every opportunity the institution offered her to acquire skills beyond her field of study.

She participated in student groups, played **basketball, swam, climbed**, and was part of the [Storytellers](#) program for which she created social media, covered events, and wrote articles for [CONECTA](#), the **Tec's news site**.

StoryTellers is a [Tec de Monterrey](#) institutional program that began in 2016, originally under the name *Communication Ambassadors*, with the aim of having **students narrate their experiences of university life**.

*"I was in **student groups**; I was in CARE, which is for foreign regional associations; I was in an environmental group, an art group, and in Girl Up.*

*"I swam; I'd play volleyball pickup games; and I'd say: 'Oh, what sport haven't I done?' and that's how I got into **climbing**," she recalled.*

In addition to her extracurricular activities, the **Tec graduate** acknowledges that the [Educational Model](#) provided her with a résumé that helped her be accepted into the master's program.

*"What I always liked about the **Tec** were the collaborative projects and opportunities to work with companies. Although it's a lot of work, when you graduate, you realize that this is a great differentiator: it adds a lot of experience to your résumé.*

*"I had the opportunity to do my specialist work at the Guadalajara campus, where I studied **pharmaceutics**," she added.*

What's more, she carried out several projects, such as **generating bioplastic** from organic waste, and participated in various entrepreneurship competitions, one of them being 'Jump Chile 2024,' a university entrepreneurship competition in which she reached the semi-finals.

Nashiely provided coverage for CONECTA during her time in the Storyteller program. PHOTO: Courtesy of Nashiely Ojeda



Her dream of a scholarship to study in Saudi Arabia

During her university studies, Nashiely went through a difficult situation: she lost her father, which caused her to stop for a while and rethink her next steps, as well as decide whether to find a job or **continue with graduate studies**.

*“That event had many repercussions on my life in the sense of spending a little more time with my mom, getting some closure, and taking my time so as **not to rush things**,”* she told **CONECTA**.

Although she is excited by this opportunity, Nashiely confesses that she was afraid about making the decision to **leave home once again**.

“I’m excited, but I’m also scared. I’ve been here with my mom for a long time and we’ve reconnected. She thought I was going to leave her completely alone.

*“My **family** made me realize that you have to make your own way and make decisions based on what you like and what will make you happy,” she shared.*

Nashiely participated in swimming, athletics, and climbing, to name just a few activities. PHOTO: Courtesy of Nashiely Ojeda



Just as with the Tec’s **Leaders of Tomorrow** program, Nashiely won a 100% scholarship, allowing her to live in Saudi Arabia for the next two years and study **plant science** at **King Abdullah University of Science and Technology**.

Leaders of Tomorrow (LDM) is a Tec de Monterrey initiative that provides scholarships each year to young people who have both a history of successful social transformation and socioeconomic need.

“As part of the LDM scholarship, you have introductory talks at the beginning of the program. They help you to find a support network and other people who are looking for the same thing as you,” she said.

In fact, it was at a **Leaders of Tomorrow** session where Nashiely Ojeda learned about **KAUST** and became interested in its graduate program.

The San Luis Potosí native will join the induction course in August, before starting the **master’s** course.

ALSO READ:

