

JEAN JUNIOR EXUME Degree Program: Administration Email: JJExume2020@gmail.com

Jean Junior Exume is a 2021 graduate from BGM High School. He graduated #6 in his graduating class. He was never sponsored while he was in high school, but he worked hard every year to earn money doing any odd job he could find to pay for his school. When he heard that But God Ministries was offering scholarships to the top ten students in the first graduating class, he immediately went to the administration to find out where he stood in that list because he knew he had to be one of the top in his class, and this meant that he might be chosen for this amazing opportunity. During his senior year, he went with the others to visit Providence University to hear about their degree programs. He felt like all of his dreams were coming true as he listened to the administrator explain about the university. As he listened, he began to imagine himself sitting in one of those desks listening to the professors and taking notes as a college student. It had always been a dream of his to go to college, but he had no idea how it was going to happen. Just getting to go and hear about the school was a dream come true. He decided that day that if he was chosen as one of the scholarship recipients, he would work harder than he had ever worked before to be in the top of his class in the university as well. This would be the way he would lead his family out of poverty. This would be the beginning of his future and seeing all of his hard work pay off. Jean Junior was and still is so excited about this opportunity to go to the university. He still finds it hard to believe that he is a college student now! He is grateful to But God Ministries for helping him make his dreams come true.

It has not been easy to continue in school over these past two years. The first year was amazing because they were all able to stay in the dorms at the university together and discover what it was like to be college students. He felt proud to be one of the chosen 14, and he was determined to do his best, and he did! As things began to get more and more dangerous in his country, many students in the university began to lose hope as they heard that the university was having to close the campus because of gang threats. Jean Junior decided that he would be a leader among his fellow students and he would find creative ways for them to continue being successful in school regardless of the difficult circumstances. When the university said they were going to switch to online classes, many students panicked, but Jean Junior reassured them that God would make a way. He found people in the village willing to help pay for data on a phone network and he set up a schedule between them all for when they would meet and attend their online classes. He would get up early in the morning and walk around the village looking for a good signal. Once he found one, he would text the other students and tell them where to meet and at what time so they could all log onto a hotspot he had acquired. They would gather in small groups according to major and sit under a tree with their laptops open, watching the lecture their professor provided for them. This worked for several months, but when the gang entered the village, people had to move to safety, and Jean Junior's family and several others decided to move to a safer area near Croix des Bouquet. He hated having to leave his friends, but they had entered a time when they all just had to fend for themselves. The area where Jean Junior is living now has a very good signal and he is easily able to attend his online classes. He is thankful for that. He is looking forward to the day when things are more settled and they can attend classes in person again, but until then, he will just work hard and not let anything stand in his way. He knows that with a degree in administration, there will be many options for him in the future. He has thought about becoming a school administrator one day or maybe even running a company or organization. He is not sure where this degree is going to lead him, but he knows that God has a plan to use his leadership skills in a big way one day. For now, he just needs to do his best in school.