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# Medical School Personal Statement

Graduating high school was one of the most exciting times in my life. Soon, I would be starting college. I had big dreams for my career. I knew I wanted to work in health care because I wanted to give back to my community and help others. Like every other freshman and sophomore, I began my general courses, trying to figure out which healthcare-related path most beckoned to me. But that exploration was curtailed when my family began to press me to come back home to Georgia, where my two sisters were attending the University of Georgia. Due to their pressure, I moved to Athens to pursue a business degree.

Fast forward two years. As my peers, anticipating graduation, were excited about their future, yet I felt unsatisfied. I had learned valuable business tools, but I kept wondering how I had ventured so far from my initial goals of working in health care. Defeated, but also still yearning to follow my dreams, I sat down at my laptop one night and searched “health care careers.” That aimless search came to a screeching halt when I began reading about pharmacy and the roles a pharmacist plays in patient health care. My heart beat faster. I sat up for hours reading about this fast-developing profession. How had I not considered this profession? How did I not know there was more being a pharmacist than just filling a prescription or that a pharmacist’s role was not just as a healthcare provider, but also a problem solver, a confidante, and a friend? I began talking to pharmacists in the community, and became more and more excited about the prospect of being able to join such an inspiring team. My previous disappointment vanished. I am eager and confident about applying to pharmacy school, for I know that I will excel through the program and in my future career in pharmacy.

When I first decided to pursue a career in health care, it was based on my fascination with Biology, specifically the immune system and its mystifying way of fighting or succumbing to disease. The immune system has almost unlimited capability to evolve and protect against infections; wanting to understand this complexity, coupled with my desire work with and help others, told me that patient health care was where I belonged, and so it is. Along with my studies in biology, my chemistry and mathematics courses have helped prepare me for the demanding pressures of pharmacy school. Chemistry developed my understanding of atomic structures, bonding, and chemical mechanisms, important to the study of pharmacy given that pharmaceutical science studies how different medications react chemically with the chemicals within the human body. Laboratory experiments in both courses have greatly increased my practical and analytical skills. Meanwhile, my mathematics courses have improved my problem solving, logical thinking, and analytical skills. Having enjoyed the academic study of these combined courses, I am eager to combine theory with practical application in the study of Pharmacy.

Pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree will provide me the knowledge I need to promote health improvement, wellness, and disease prevention. It will also improve my understanding of pharmaceutical science to ensure that drugs are used to maximum benefit in disease preventions and patient treatment. I am eager to specialize in this subject, with a specific interest in clinical pediatric pharmacology. I have found some of my most rewarding volunteering involved working with underprivileged children. My compassion towards children in their health will make a difference in their lives once I can pair it with pharmacy training. With pharmacy evolving so rapidly I am unsure of where I might be in 10 or 20 years. I hope to always practice in a clinical pediatric setting, but also intend to contribute toward the research and development of clinical trials focused on understanding the pharmacokinetics of medications in children. My excitement at discovering where I belong may make me a little ambitious but I even dream of playing a part in finding the cure for childhood cancer and other diseases.

The path to get me to this point has been filled with twists and turns, but it has brought me to the exact spot I want to be at. For me, being a pharmacist is neither about salary nor prestige; it’s about giving back. I know in my journey to touch others lives, they will touch mine as well and I can’t think of any other greater reason than wanting to pursue a degree in Pharmacy.

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