

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 in terms of my career. I knew I wanted to work in health care. I wanted the opportunity to give back to my community and help others. As every other freshman and sophomore, I began my general courses trying to find which healthcare related path I would find myself traveling down. At this time my family, who had previously moved to Florida, had now moved back to Georgia, was pressing me to come home. My two sisters were attending the University of Georgia, with my brother not far behind, and that was their idea for me as well. I hadn't considered pharmacy at this time, and due to their pressure, I moved to Athens to pursue a business degree. Fast forward two years, as my peers were excited about their future, I felt unsatisfied. I had learned valuable business tools, but how had I 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." I felt as though my search came to a screeching halt when I began reading about pharmacy and the roles a pharmacist plays in patient health care. 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 then just filling a prescription or that a pharmacist role as not just a healthcare provider, but also a problem solver, a confident, 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. Those disappointments I had felt vanished and was replaced by someone eager and confident to not only apply to pharmacy school, but to excel through the program, and begin working in the field of pharmacy.

When I initially 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 and in a quest to understand this complexity, coupled with my desire work with and help others, I knew patient health care was where I belonged. Along with my studies in biology, my chemistry and mathematics courses have helped prepare me for the demanding pressures of pharmacy school. Chemistry has helped to develop my understanding of atomic structures, bonding, and chemical mechanisms. This is 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. Equally, my mathematics courses have improved my problem solving, logical thinking, and analytical skills. Having enjoyed the academic study of these combined courses, I have chosen a degree that will enable me to combine theory with practical application.

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 volunteer work was in working with under privileged children. Paired with my desire to work in the field of pharmacy, coupled with my compassion toward children and their health, I know I can truly make a difference in their lives. With pharmacy evolving so rapidly I am unsure of where I might be in 10 or 20 years. It is my goal to always practice in a clinical pediatric setting, but hopefully able to also contribute toward the research and development of clinical trials focused on understanding pharmacokinetics of medications in children. With all my excitement, I might be a little ambitious, but maybe I will play 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 then wanting to pursue a degree in Pharmacy.