

Christopher Torres

Professor Rinehart-Kim

BIO 294

October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Personal Statement

When I was about five or six years old, I used to be a very oblivious kid. Despite the classic “monkey on the bed” rhyme, I would like to jump on the bed until eventually, one day I broke my arm. When I was sent to the hospital for surgery to fix my arm, afterwards, I found myself intrigued by how something so catastrophic could happen to my body and then suddenly be healed with no time at all. When I kept talking to the doctor about the entire process of fixing my arm and some medicinal processes, I knew that at that moment I wanted to have a future in the healthcare field, so I could help to make a difference in other people’s lives!

After I grew up a bit, I realized that later in life I wanted to be a Cardiothoracic Surgeon because I enjoy studying everything about heart physiology/pathophysiology and everything that takes place in the chest. I started my path in the healthcare field by trying to get good grades in school, taking part in various extracurriculars, and taking part in volunteer activities. These ranged anywhere from being a volunteer in Sentara hospitals, taking part in blood drives, being part of health clubs at my school and many more! I am trying to become an EMT to start getting more realistic experiences in the healthcare field, so I can be exposed to the chaotic nature of treating various illnesses and injuries that occur daily. Afterwards, I plan to continue being an EMT until I go to medical school or when I graduate from medical school, so I can go in with some prior knowledge and experience to give myself a head start on what I need to know. For right now, I plan on going to EVMS in Virginia Beach, but if not then I plan on going to a medical school in New York instead. As for my qualities as a candidate and what makes me stick out, I believe that my experience from being an EMT will be what makes me unique. This is because when I get some experience on being an EMT, then I will already be somewhat ahead of the curve when it comes to other candidates that only studied and focused on school. Knowledge is not everything, experience is what ties everything together.

In conclusion, ever since I had that fateful epiphany of breaking my arm, I knew that my entire life path would take a shift for the better. After I had realized what I wanted to do in life, everything became simpler, and the motivation that followed only made it easier to achieve. When I finish college and apply for medical school, I intend to try and do my best to get accepted, with the skills/experience only I have, in order to try and complete my life goal of trying to make a difference in people’s lives.