

Nicholas Angeles

BIOL 294

Personal Statement for General MD Program

As a young child, the smell of a hospital was no stranger to my senses. Antiseptics and disinfectants fill the air as the seven year old version of myself walks down the halls of Boston general hospital to visit my mother. With my father and brother beside me, we accompany my mother on her bedside, her vitals and IV solution positioned to her right, and a small nightstand flooded with cards, flowers, and letters on her left. My mother was in and out of the hospital during most of my adolescent life for repetitive treatments of radiation therapy and chemotherapy following her diagnosis of breast cancer. It was during this time that I had found a new understanding of what healthcare was all about. I formerly thought of hospitals as this frightening place in which the doctor gives pointy shots and unbearable medications to sick patients, but after watching my mother's condition progress, with the endless care and compassion her doctors and nurses provided to her and my family, I saw the hospital and healthcare overall as a force of rejuvenation for those who have fallen victim to the cruel and reckless nature of disease.

After my mother passed away in the summer of 2013, I felt a true sense of affiliation with healthcare and medicine, and I established that my career goal was to become an MD physician, not only to satisfy my hyperaroused curiosity for medicine and biological sciences, but also to provide my future patients with the same care and compassion as that of which my mother received in a time where it meant the absolute most to my family. I can say without a doubt that it was the inspiration from my past family experiences that have driven me to make strong efforts academically. As I have coursed through my undergraduate program, I can certainly say that the efforts I have made towards my degree have not only developed my curiosity in the biological sciences, but have also developed my self-discipline as I track through courses that may be a bit estranged from my main studies such as organic chemistry or traditional calculus. I do admit that apart from my coursework, my practical clinical experiences and research do lack more than most students in my field, mainly due to my full time job and main source of income overarching my extracurricular necessities, which is why my short term plans include immersing myself in the clinical setting with volunteer EMT experience, along with replacing my main occupation with a phlebotomy position working directly with patients, tending to their needs in their doctor's visit. I believe that these responsibilities would enhance and confirm my understanding of the day-to-day medical environment, and more importantly develop my long-term goals of becoming a strong physician who can solidify the gap between complex medical understanding and security of patient wellbeing.

I feel that the opportunity to join an MD program would be an honor on behalf of myself to serve and represent this program in means of prioritizing patient care above all else. I look forward to networking with other students in the program who share these same values as myself on integral patient care, to serve the purpose of further reshaping and molding the culture of medicine in order to uphold the highest standards for the everyday patient. I would like to use this opportunity to further recognize how complex patient care can be, and it is only in that recognition in which we can provide treatments that return people to their everyday lives.