

WHY I WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE

Life is full of so many wonderful things and wonderful adventures! College gives me the opportunity to experience my life to the fullest. I have so many dreams and so many things that I want to accomplish. I want to go to college because I want to do great things for myself!

I also believe that education is important and will give me the opportunity to contribute to the community. There are many ways to contribute but one of my interests is learning medicine. My parents are first generation college graduates and taught me the importance of working hard to do something great. My mom was raised on a farm in rural Nebraska and her parents did not have the financial means to help her pay for college. She worked really hard and had four jobs in high school to pay for college. She now has her doctorate and works in a critical access hospital emergency room, in the same town, that contributed to her education. Seeing her success is inspiring to me. Her career has taught me the importance of contributing to something greater than myself. When I was young, our family would stay in the hospital call room with her when she was on call. I learned to walk and ride my bike in the empty wings of the hospital. Some of my best childhood memories have been spent greeting patients that needed an extra smile to brighten their day.

My dad also worked really hard and learned the importance of investing at a young age. My dad taught me to “pay myself first” and invest before I spend. Similarly, a college education allows me to invest in myself. The power of education allows me to excel in the things that interest me the most, including medicine. As a doctor, I want to help people live happier and healthier lives. I want to help shape healthcare and encourage positive lifestyle changes to make our community better. Education is so valuable in order to encourage others to live their best lives. What I hope to achieve is the ability to learn skills that would benefit others.

At 9 years old, I had my own health issue that led to a life changing diagnosis. What started with abdominal pain one night, ended with a rare autoimmune condition. The doctors at Children’s Hospital saved my life and I will forever be grateful to them. I spent several nights in the hospital with many IVs, lab draws and machine tests. At the time, we were told that I may have pediatric cancer. I had a hip repair to remove a large bone cyst in my femur and liver biopsy for extremely high numbers. I was immensely blessed that the results did not show cancer. Although my autoimmune condition is still life changing, the doctors, nurses and everyone working with my medical team has spent so much time educating me on how to manage my diagnosis and live the best life that I can. They are so smart and so inspiring to me! I hope that I can give back to my

community and other families the same way that my medical team has given to me.

In conclusion, college is so important to me. The value of a great education and contribution to my community is also important to me. I'm so excited to see what the future holds! Thank you for your consideration as you read my essay about higher education.

Sincerely,

Jack Schaefer