Admission Essay

Student Name

Institutional Affiliations

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## Admission Essay

I am an ambitious individual passionate about pursuing a career in the medical field. My academic background has given me the foundation to reach my goal. At my high school, I was part of the Medical Science Academy and took AP courses yearly while maintaining a weighted GPA of 105.87. Athletics has been another area in which I have excelled. I played field hockey for all four years of high school and received awards for sportsmanship and attitude.

Additionally, competitive dancing, from ballet to hip-hop, has been part of my life since the age of three, giving me invaluable experience performing on stage solo and as part of a team. The major I have chosen to pursue is Neuroscience with a Pre-Med track, and my ultimate goal is to attend medical school.

Throughout my educational career, I have had the unique opportunity to learn in various environments that have contributed to my understanding of science, medicine, and the world around me. As someone who has always been passionate about learning and exploring new concepts, my academic accomplishments reflect this passion – from receiving an AAA award for academics, athletics, attitude, and sportsmanship during high school field hockey season to being part of my school's Medical Science Academy which allows students to double up on their science classes every year. In addition to excelling academically, I have participated in numerous extracurricular activities, such as competitive dance, where I have performed solo and with my team in various styles, including jazz, lyrical, modern hip-hop, and ballet. Throughout these experiences, I have developed a sense of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance, providing me with the foundation to tackle complex challenges. I am also proud of overcoming an obstacle that has been part of my life since childhood - a speech impediment. As someone who struggled with pronouncing "s" and "z" words correctly (lateral lisp), I had to work hard from preschool through

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fifth grade to make sure I was speaking clearly. Looking back on this experience, I now understand how important it is to believe in yourself and never give up even when things seem difficult, this experience pushed me to choose neuroscience as my major because I want to study the working of the human brain and help others who face the same difficulty as me.

One other obstacle that has served as motivation for me was when my mother was diagnosed with incurable Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer; her fight every day never fails to remind me of the importance of perseverance. These experiences have allowed me to develop a strong work ethic that I will bring with me to Duke University. The inspiring radiologist oncologist who treated my mother is one of the reasons why I am passionate about pursuing a career in the medical field; they demonstrated what it looks like to be dedicated to helping others and inspired me to strive for excellence. My educational background and experience make me an ideal candidate for Duke University, as I look forward to not only gaining knowledge but also making a positive impact on those around me.

In addition, my involvement in community service has given me the opportunity to give back and make a difference in other people's lives. At my community's homeless shelter, I volunteered to help prepare meals for those in need. These experiences have shown me how small actions can make a significant impact, and doing so has given purpose to my efforts. My desire to help others is strong, and I am looking forward to continuing this as a student at Duke University. Therefore, I believe that with the combination of my academic background, athletic accomplishments, personal experiences, and community service involvement, I would be an ideal addition to Duke University, and I look forward to the opportunity of joining your school community. Thank you for considering my application.