

Why College is Important to Me
by Sarah Griffin

When I was a young student, my grandfather told me that, "An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." Although my grandfather passed away years ago, this saying daily inspires my drive and motivation to learn to become the best I can be intellectually. Going to college is important to me because it promises the ability to be able to give me the knowledge, skills, and hope I need to succeed.

The knowledge that a college education will give me is a valuable and necessary tool in achieving my long-term career goal. My aspiration is to become the head pharmacist at Presbyterian Hospital Matthews, the medical facility where I currently volunteer. In order to achieve this goal, I will need to exhibit mastery in anatomy and physiology, calculus, general biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, and statistics. By choosing to take AP Biology II, AP Calculus AB, and AP Calculus BC this year and AP Physics, AP Chemistry II, and AP Statistics next year, I have chosen to master a select few of the topics required to become a successful pharmacist as a high school student; however, I will require additional college classes to exhibit full mastery and understanding of these topics. Undoubtedly, this knowledge will be invaluable to me in my intended career as a head pharmacist.

A college education will provide me with the skills, or abilities developed through training and experience, that I need to succeed. Most of my prospective North Carolinian colleges, such as University of North Carolina and Campbell University, offer various internship programs in their students' field of study. An internship would give me the opportunity to sharpen my skill set and acquire new skills by interacting with men and women on a professional level. Additionally, enrolling in college would help me to acquire new leadership skills and improve existing leadership skills. Most colleges allow their students to hold a leadership position in various clubs, seminars, and sports teams. For example, as a prospective student at Campbell University with a passion for softball, I would have the opportunity to

become the captain of the intramural softball team. Many colleges now offer leadership and citizenship programs. Leadership is one example of an applicable skill learned in most colleges that I would need to become a head pharmacist. In college, there are countless other opportunities offered to help me improve my skill set. For example, an elective class in psychology could provide me with useful background skills for public relations in pharmacy. As you can see, the number and value of skills learned in college are abundant.

Additionally, a college degree will offer me hope for my future endeavors regardless of my skill set. A degree would allow me to have hope, the ability to look forward to the rest of my life with confidence and expectation. Hope is a necessity that could dramatically increase my personal determination, satisfaction, and successes in life. "Hope is not a dream but a way of making dreams become reality." A college degree is one of the few things in life that offers me that hope.

College can give me the knowledge, skills, and hope I need to succeed. Therefore, going to college is of great importance to me. When given the opportunity, I would definitely choose to attend college. Why wouldn't I?