

Why College Is Important to Me

by Hannah Alcorn

The buzz of campus life. Students strolling to class while chatting with their friends, studying tirelessly in the library, or enjoying a minute of relaxation on the lawn with a good book. Only a few years ago these mature young adults were teenagers completely dependent on their parents. Now, they must hold a job, keep up with rigorous classes, and balance their social lives independently. The college life is a unique experience where children turn into adults and responsibilities are hefted onto young shoulders. Interests can be followed eagerly and passions can be nurtured. College is important to me because I want to further my knowledge in areas I am interested in and because I strive to become independent.

College is the perfect place for me to become an expert in what I love. It's very nice to love a subject, but loving something is entirely different from knowing it well enough to hold a job. In college, I will be able to learn everything I need to know about subjects that will shape my career. I am very eager to take courses of my interest and I cannot wait to learn more about what I have a passion for. In high school, I have some choice in electives, but college will offer more specific classes. Right now, psychology is tugging at my mind and heart. Anything related to the social sciences is interesting to me and in college I will be able to explore those topics.

The level of education gained from college is simply not available anywhere else. By studying in the field that I wish to work in I will gain necessary knowledge and skills that I cannot acquire otherwise. On top of that, earning a bachelor of arts degree will entail broadening my studies to the foreign languages, fine arts, mathematics, and natural sciences. By graduation, I will have a well-rounded education.

Along with gaining academic knowledge, in college I will acquire practical knowledge. When I am an adult, which is not so far in the future, I want to be self-sufficient. I want to have a solid job and

be able to live independently. College is the best way for me to accomplish that. Before college, I have been sheltered and cared for by my parents. When I am in college I must learn to live on my own. I will most likely move out, a considerable step away from my past life. Living away from my parents will force me to face and conquer problems that I have never had to deal with before. For example, it will be my responsibility to keep my living space clean. There will be no more dirty dishes that magically appear clean in the cupboards. The refrigerator will no longer contain an unending supply of food; not to mention, I will be doing my own budgeting and scheduling. College is a unique place in between childhood and adulthood where we mature and grow.

I look forward to my first steps of independence and learning to live on my own. I cannot live a very full life without a solid job, though, so along with becoming self-sufficient I strive to become an expert in my fields of interest. There is so much information waiting for me to learn! College is an experience that is extremely important to me and that I look forward to.