## Why College Is Important to Me

by

## Caleb Han

All journeys start and end. They all have stepping stones in between, and interactions along the way. For me, this journey started in middle school. I learned how to code python, and I strengthened my love for astronomy. Since then, I, a freshman in high school, have mastered python, and I know some of java, javascript, CSS, HTML, and XML. On the astronomy side, I have attended Space Camp by NASA and I have studied the topic. I also am the captain of my school's science bowl team, and we got the top 16 in the national tournaments. I focus on astronomy in the team, as well as some other subjects. Middle school, for me, has been the beginning, and these learning processes have been my stepping stones. So what's the end? The end of college. For me, that's where my academic career ends and my professional life begins.

Another thing why college is important to me is the flexibility. It offers you the choice of classes, the choice of your studies. Yes, there are some required courses, but most of the classes you major in, you can choose. You can even choose the major. This flexibility isn't available earlier in high school. The schedules are rigid to the very minute, and you're confined to a couple of buildings. In college, at best, you have some dozens of buildings, each for its own purpose, and your own room to study, focus, and work in while you're not in class. This allows for more creativity, enthusiasm, and purpose in your studies.

In addition, college gives me the opportunity to meet new people, mentors, and resources for my needs. The campus beholds a more diverse community, from different backgrounds and

desires. Different backgrounds mean different perspectives, a fountain of creativity. There are mentors that can help me, whether it's an older student or a professor. They have wisdom that I may not possess, which could be invaluable. Finally, the campus would have resources, whether they are friends, equipment, or knowledge. These resources would help me progress through my studies, through hard times.

Finally, college is where I want to more about coding and aerospace engineering. It is literally my last stop before my professional life, and it is important for me to learn the most I can during those years. That is where I can apply what I had learned in high school and before and finally take them to use. The beauty of it is, I can change whatever I want and do and start all over again. In sum, college is important to me because it is the end of my academic career, it allows me to have a flexible schedule, studies, and general life, I can get more opportunities through friends, mentors, and resources around the campus, and I can finally learn, properly, what I've always wanted to learn: coding and aerospace engineering. To this, I wish for a good college life, when it comes, closer than it seems.