

Why is College Important to Me?
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Student of the month in kindergarten, winner of the 5th grade Kenton County District spelling bee, 3-time All-Star softball player, MVP of my 8th grade basketball season, and climbing 30 spots in my class rank over one semester. Ever since I took my first step, competition has always been my biggest passion. Putting in the hours to become the best at whatever hobby I'd taken a new liking to and motivating myself to exert my greatest effort so that I've assured myself I'm the most distinguished in that particular field has been my biggest pride. Becoming a veterinarian has been my most significant goal since the day I knew what an animal was and I never realized this would be the greatest competition of my life.

Starting high school meant preparing for the future. In my freshman High School 101 class we were instructed to do a project on what future profession we wanted to be. While doing this project I learned there are approximately 6,000 colleges in the United States, and only 32 of those are veterinary schools, out of 11,000 Americans who apply to veterinary school only 1,300 get in each year, and out of 135 million people who are employed in the US only 120,000 of those are veterinarians. My mind was clouded with doubts. Has my whole life been a lie? Is it possible to be a veterinarian when 0.0008% of the working population was? Could I be cut out for this profession? Have I prepared myself for this level of competition?

High school was a new chapter in my life. Although I aimed to score the most points in a middle school basketball game and challenged my classmates to get the highest test scores, high school was a different story. With 500 students in my class, energy and effort were at a higher demand. I've never faced this amount of adversity. Moping around would never allow me to accomplish amazing things. My new realization left me with the determination to be the finest

student in my grade and the most dedicated student in my animal science class. No longer was I consumed by doubt, but rather excitement for the upcoming trials I'd face.

Now that I'm a junior in high school I've almost reached the end of my four-year-long competition. As a high school freshman, I was terrified of the uncharted territory ahead of me. In less than two years I'll begin another journey, this time as a college freshman. Striving to achieve my lifelong goal has become much more realistic in these past couple of months. Getting into the best undergraduate school for my field of study is my newest goal in life, after that, it will be to get into the greatest graduate school. Being the most influential and life-changing veterinarian of my time is of great importance to me now. College will prepare and test me for my future. I can't wait for my next competition.