Short Application Essay for Pharmacy School

Pharmacy is an interesting and ever-changing field in our world today. An especially intriguing aspect of this profession is the wide spectrum of opportunities available. With such a versatile degree as a Doctor of Pharmacy, the possibilities for my future are exciting. However, I believe that before a career is even considered, one must examine her motivations.

My personal interest in the pharmaceutical profession is rooted in my desire to be involved in the improvement of others' health, to be knowledgable in the various topics pertaining to health care, and to possess the means to explore my fullest potential through a meaningful career.

My first inclination to become a pharmacist rose out of my concern for others. A significant part of my character is devoted to caring for other people and contributing to their well-being. Though I have not yet gained any work experience in the field, through observation and personal experience, I have learned that the health professions are dedicated to this same mission. When I visit the pharmacy and receive consultation about a medication from the pharmacist, I feel that I am being taken care of and helped in a meaningful way. Pharmacists give patients a sense of reassurance that they are cared for and instill trust in patients that they are being treated as individuals. I would like to become such a person who is actively involved with treating patients with great care.

My two years of higher education thus far have been extremely interesting and challenging. Through my three pre-pharmacy courses, I have been learning about life and health on many different levels. The body systems and their functions have been particularly interesting to me in my biology classes. It is fascinating to learn about the biological and chemical make-up of the human body and the innumerable processes that are occurring constantly within us. I am looking forward to entering the professional program and beginning to learn in great detail about the many different medicines and their interactions with the body systems. More importantly, I am excited to apply the knowledge I have gained through my education to my daily life and career. Being a pharmacist will allow me to incorporate what I am learning at present into my career, while gaining new knowledge as technology is enhanced and new discoveries are made.

It is important to me that I have a passion for whatever path my life takes. Since I have control over that path, I am choosing to pursue a career that will provide my life with both meaning and satisfaction. My potential to excel has always been realized in my life academically. I plan to continue to challenge myself with the rigorous Doctor of Pharmacy program at Palm Beach Atlantic, and in the future with the demanding pharmaceutical profession.

Short Application Essay for Law School

My first personal introduction to the profusion of environmental laws in our country came while working for my father. I worked for over eleven years at my father's business, an Exxon Service Center. While there, I performed every job, task, and duty associated with the operation of a service station. One duty involved the maintenance of records for the underground storage tank field on the site. I was amazed at the amount of paperwork required to comply with the laws governing underground tanks.

My two years of full-time work after high school taught me much about myself, but I realized that I needed a different environment to continue growing. Therefore, from 20xx to 20xx, I attended classes at Mythic County Community College while continuing to work at my father's Exxon station. I was certain I would eventually choose a science-related major, but an event in 20xx showed me that geology was what I wanted to pursue. In 20xx, during the installation of a new, larger underground field tank at the station, an environmental consulting firm tested our soil and found hydrocarbon levels well above the allowable limits. Seventy tons of soil had to be removed from the site and incinerated, at great expense to my father's business. These environmental regulation problems that my father had as a small business owner made me realize that eventually I wanted to use my science background to make it easier on other small business owners to comply with environmental laws.

I transferred to Mythic College as an undergraduate in geology in 20xx, tailoring my courses to environmental geology and hydrogeology. My senior thesis directly reflects my career goals. I am working with the United States Department of Agriculture on a study of riparian zones and their favorable effects on elevated nitrate levels in groundwater due to farm fertilization practices. Meanwhile, I am developing a shallow subsurface geologic map of a riparian zone using seismic refraction techniques. This map will allow a first-order approximation of groundwater flow at the field site and also guide the installation of hydrogeologic equipment by the USDA. I now understand more fully how geophysical methods serve an important role in environmental work, and my senior thesis is a good introduction to this field.

I had initially intended to acquire a position with an environmental consulting firm upon graduation, but discussions with several of my professors confirmed my interest in studying environmental law, which will help me combine my dual interests in science and law and better prepare me for a position with a consulting firm. Thus, I am ready to become a dynamic participant in the University of Pittsburgh Law School this fall, motivated by personal experience, a highly evolved work ethic, and a strong education. Please do give my application every consideration.

Application Essays for Business School—3 pages

Question #1: In no more than 500 words, discuss the most significant personal or professional risk you've taken and its outcome. How did this change you as a person?

My life has been an amazing journey of physical, mental, and spiritual growth. The most significant event of personal development occurred at age 21, when my brother and I ventured to California to independently bike 3500 miles across the country. Even though my bike trip began in the summer of 20xx, my dream of achieving such a feat had started the previous summer in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Not only did my student co-op in Colorado open up a world of business opportunities, it also revealed my passion for adventure. The following summer, my brother and I headed west armed only with a two-man tent, sleeping bags, two used touring bikes and accessories, 10 state maps, a calling card, an ATM card with limited cash, and an unending supply of enthusiasm.

Since my student co-op was the only time I had traveled outside of the midwest, I had never witnessed the magnitude of the southwest. From the map, the Mojave Desert appeared simply as 150 flat miles between Barstow, CA, and Needles, AZ. However, on old route 66 from a bicycle in 115 degree heat, it was a rocky, unforgiving road of massive hills in which only sheer determination and mutual encouragement brought us to the next town by sunrise.

Two weeks later, in the Santa Fe National Forest, I was reminded of the goodness of human nature. That evening, as it rained for the first time in our three-week-old trip, I awoke with severe stomach pains. After I crawled out of the two-man tent and threw up for 20 minutes, my brother agreed to bike back into town for help. I laid for over an hour with a flashlight, as my brother raced 15 miles out of the forest and to the nearest town to call for an ambulance. At the hospital, I was administered six liters of saline solution in the Emergency Room. After understanding our predicament for both lodging and finances, the on-call ER doctor allowed my brother and me to stay at his home for three days as I slowly recovered from severe exhaustion and dehydration. He was just one of a dozen, previously unfamiliar families who offered unconditional assistance on our successful 46-day adventure. Few experiences can so clearly demonstrate that life's challenges are only part of a master plan of personal growth and achievement.

Now, during difficult times, I am able to confidently sit back and set short-term goals, allowing me to continue the course of accomplishing my ambitions. I have learned the power of determination and teamwork, while enhancing my self-discipline and self-motivation. When challenges face me today, I can reach back to that experience and be both humbled and uplifted, recognizing how important it was to my personal growth.

Question #2: In no more than 1,000 words, tell us about the most challenging team experience you've had to date. What role did you play? What factors made it a challenge for you? How did you and the group address these issues? What did you learn?

After my third year as a staff consultant in the Warehouse Management Practice of Mythic Partners, I was tasked with the challenge of independently managing the second warehouse implementation project at our largest client to date. The \$1.5 million engagement followed an extensive go-live in which two previous project managers were removed from their roles one month earlier. According to the client sponsors, they had failed to deliver quality results during the support of the live production system.

This situation created my first opportunity to work directly for the Fortune 100 Vice Presidents of Mythic Manufacturing. Previously with this client, I had managed the successful delivery of all interfaces to the new warehousing software, but I had limited contact with any of the project sponsors. The office supply retailer had also recently hired a senior manager and multiple staff who were deeply skilled in warehousing processes. I needed to work diligently to establish both Mythic Partners and myself as the preferred integrator to replace the client's three northeast Distribution Centers into one new 350,000 sq. ft. facility servicing up to 200 retail stores.

I had less than one week to prepare the entire project plan. The project partner assigned me a 10-member team, all of whom were in new roles and with less than two years of consulting experience. I organized the group into three logical teams and worked with each team lead to develop a mutually agreed-upon project plan. After multiple late nights of preparation, I presented the plan to the client managers and project sponsors.

I had established myself as a capable project manager in all areas of the project, with a team of knowledgeable consultants. As a team, we had won the work and were excited about the challenge of our new roles. Also, I had successfully led sub-teams for the previous two years with Mythic Partners in all areas but technical infrastructure. Consequently, I spent most of the first month with my infrastructure team lead understanding our new responsibilities to build the warehouse computer center, as well as organize the layout of all hardware, conveyors, radio frequency terminals, and printers in the warehouse. For the first time, I had to work with a hardware reseller, identifying exact requirements for the computer center. I realized my lack of knowledge in the area, and worked with my practice's lead infrastructure consultant to purchase the necessary hardware components. Thereafter, I was well prepared for all detailed activities of the project, providing the client with one contact for all project-related questions.

After three years of experience with Mythic Partners, I had learned to delegate and trust the work of my staff. Despite all team members taking on new responsibilities, everyone responded extremely well and worked hard to meet the deadlines we had defined as a team. When the functional training team needed extra help during a critical week, the entire team went to the warehouse to share the load of training 100 employees across multiple shifts. We created a database on the client's network to efficiently communicate issues and project status across the multiple locations. This enabled me to work openly

with the client on resolving potential problems; I also established weekly meetings with the client upper management, sharing all progress, whether we were behind or onschedule. At first these meetings were coordinated with my project partner, but after I improved on my ability to communicate at a high level with upper management, the client was comfortable with only limited participation from the project partner.

Near the end of testing, I learned there were delays in the final construction of the new facility. I worked with my team and client to incorporate further testing and enhanced functionality into the work plans. With the client's assistance, we were able to improve the picking process and product placement within the warehouse during the delay.

After the first week of go-live, one of the major setup programs was incorrectly slotting materials according to height instead of width. Because the team was confident to raise the issue directly to me, a major setback was quickly avoided during the receiving of product from the three discontinued warehouses. While we fixed and tested the program, the client stopped receiving product and corrected the slotted inventory.

The project was extremely successful, implementing on-time and within budget. To further emphasize the success of the project, the Warehouse Management Practice vendor used the project as their top achievement for the year, the client project sponsor was selected as one of two keynote speakers at the year-end Mythic Partners Regional Meeting, and the client was featured in multiple supply chain periodicals.

This experience motivated me to continue to improve my managerial skills. I coordinated a third-party review of the project, interviewing the key client participants and providing a questionnaire for the Mythic Partners staff members. The client praised our team approach, along with my ability to move into the new project management role.

From a challenges standpoint, I learned that I needed to continue to improve on my confidence to communicate with upper management, but there was significant improvement over the course of the project. Finally, my team appreciated my willingness to involve them in major project decisions and allow them to manage with limited supervision. After becoming certified in SAP, I successfully led Mythic Partners largest Warehouse Management Practice implementation that interfaced directly with a major SAP go-live. Capping off this experience, this past summer I felt very proud as all three of my team leads were promoted to Principal Consultants within the firm.

Short Application Essay for Medical School

Describe any experience that influenced your decision to apply to medical school.

My exposure to the medical profession has been in the form of working with patients in a free care clinic. Being the first of four children, I have learned to venture into new territories on my own without any help and to pass my knowledge to my younger siblings. As a result, I have acquired the ability to help and work with people one-on-one. While working at Mythic Pediatrics, I have observed Dr. XX respectfully and patiently explaining her diagnosis of an illness to children's parents in simple terms that they understood. I also saw how she was able to use her native language to communicate with patients who did not know any English. I, too, have such an advantage; being of Pakistani descent, I can communicate fluently in Urdu as well as some Spanish.

In another instance of working at the pediatrician's clinic, my first encounter with a patient having a disability required a creative solution to a simple problem. As I took out the chart and went to call in the next patient, I had not quite looked up from the paper when a nine-year-old boy in a wheelchair rolled in. The first thought that went through my mind was how I would take his height and weight. He clearly was not able to stand, and I was conscious of not wanting to embarrass him. Looking back through the old visit sheets, I found no previous record of his height and weight ever being recorded. However, I did not want to treat him any differently as a patient because of his disability where it wasn't necessary. Then I realized that I could easily acquire the two measurements with the help of the boy's father. The boy's father verified that he picked the boy up out of his wheelchair at home to bathe him and put him into bed, so I asked if he would be willing to pick up his son and get on the scale with him. I then took the weight of the two together on the scale, then weighed the father separately, and calculated the patient's weight by subtracting the father's. To determine the boy's height, I had him lie down on an examination table and used a measuring tape. This encounter with this particular patient and his father, who were delighted to be treated with respect despite the boy's disability, was an important one for me that helped me realize how I could apply creative thinking to patient care.