

Special Master's Program Personal Statement Sample #1

The thought of my loved ones dying never occurred to me until one day, when I was 10; I saw my grandfather collapse to the floor holding his chest. We were at home, in a rural town in Ukraine, and my first thought was that the emergency vehicle would not arrive in time to save his life. What I remember most about that moment is my mother's reaction. Without panic, she performed the necessary first aid and ensured that my grandfather was as comfortable as possible. Help arrived in time and my grandfather survived. This incident left me in awe of my mother. I knew that she was a physician— she was the only endocrinologist in our small town— but I had never seen her in action before. Her poise and knowledge of what to do ignited a fire in me that day. From then on, I knew that I wanted to be as brave and resilient in the face of human frailty. Medicine seemed like the logical path to this, and I have pursued this career ever since.

While my aspiration of becoming a doctor never wavered, I was naturally distracted on my journey. As a new immigrant to a public high school, I wanted to prove myself and fit in with my American peers. But the language barrier and culture shock took their toll on me. I did not perform well academically as I could not understand much of what was being taught; in my junior year of high school, I received a mere 2.5 GPA. My setbacks riled my spirit and in the summer between my junior and senior years of high school, I got a part-time job that helped me pay for an English tutor. My progress was impressive, and in the end, I graduated high school with a 3.6 GPA.

With the dream of becoming a physician, I enrolled in a premed program in college. Even though I knew that hard sciences were not my forte, I chose to stick to the traditional path. I worked hard to keep up my GPA and got involved in extracurriculars like shadowing and clinical volunteering, but my resources were limited, and on top of my premed responsibilities I had to get a part-time job to sustain myself. Slowly, I lost sight of some targets necessary for becoming a physician. Upkeeping my GPA became my obsession, and I neglected to study for the MCAT, gain research experience, and get involved in volunteer work. Upon graduation from college, I had a great GPA, but a low MCAT score and application that lacked essential elements for success. And even though I made mistakes, I knew that I can be a great physician. This is what led me to this opportunity.

I am interested in your Master's in Medical Sciences program because I want to gain the necessary experiences and skills that are essential for becoming a medical student. My setbacks and mistakes have revealed to me what I must do to catch up to my peers and your program would be perfect for providing me with the opportunity to build myself up for medical school. For instance, your X research program can help me build the necessary research and lab skills, while your MCAT preparatory course can provide me with the opportunity to increase my score on the test. Additionally, I would love to have the opportunity to work in your medical

facilities alongside medical students. This would be a great chance to entrench me in the medical school environment.

Remembering my stoic mother the day my grandfather had a heart attack, I am always reminded of why I wanted to become a physician on my journey to medical school, I have gained a great deal of experience in clinical settings, but I am still lacking in vital areas. Coming from a rural town, I also know I would like to work with underserved populations and hope to make a difference in the lives of those who cannot always afford healthcare. Your program is my chance to regain my footing on the path of becoming a doctor.

Special Master's Program Personal Statement Sample #2

As I was standing on top of the podium with a friendly stranger congratulating me on my win, all I could think of was "Do not faint". My head was spinning, and I was using all my willpower to keep myself from being sick. This was not the first time this happened to me – as a professional gymnast, I have sprained, broken, and bruised my leg thousands of times. Sometimes I wonder how it hasn't just simply fallen off because of the way I treated it. My desire to heal it was one of the first times I thought of becoming a physician. The world of professional sports is full of injuries. I have seen friends going blind from pain. My yearning to alleviate their suffering and mine, is what cemented the desire to pursue medicine.

I am what they call a non-traditional medical school applicant. Academia and learning were never my focus. Even as a student at the University of X, I was forgiven for less than mediocre grades for winning gold medals. My life revolved around gymnastics, and I loved it. The need to prove to myself that I could do a seemingly impossible trick was enthralling. I loved being a part of a team and soon became the captain. But my health and the health of my teammates started to concern me. My leg, which never got the time to heal after each injury, became almost a separate part of my body. I could feel it ache all the time. Finally, I chose health over sports and ended up lost without meaning in my life.

My only choice was to focus on my academics, as I was still a student at the University of X. Now I had to truly focus on increasing my GPA. To my surprise, I fell in love with my classes. I majored in History and slowly began to branch out to other departments, taking classes in Religion, Political Science, and Philosophy. My grades soared and I finished my junior year with a 3.7 GPA.

My injured leg was a constant reminder that kept me pondering the thought of medical school. But by the beginning of my senior year of college, I have not taken the necessary prerequisites and haven't begun studying for the MCAT. My research led me to your program.

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I want to enroll in the Master of Science in Medical Physiology program because it will help me prepare for medical school. Not only will I be able to complete all the necessary prerequisites in two years of this program, but your state-of-the-art facilities will provide me with the chance to gain clinical experience with some of the most renowned professionals in the field. I am especially looking forward to the Physical Therapy course, which will help me determine if this is the medical path I want to pursue eventually. Additionally, these two years will give me time to prepare and ace my MCAT exam.

Leaving gymnastics did not diminish my resilient spirit. During practices and competitions, my coach always stood on the sidelines of the floor or the bars. As we landed a particularly difficult trick, he yelled “Hold!” As I am embarking on a long and challenging journey, I keep his guidance in my mind. I know I have a long way to go to medical school, but my determination and drive are unwavering. With the help of your program, I can acclimatize myself to the medical field and gain the necessary experiences to succeed.