

Personal Statement: Dentistry

As a young child, I always knew I wanted to work in the healthcare industry because of my compassionate nature and love of helping and serving others. I am also a person who appreciates the science that provides such great help to the public. I have long known that dentistry would be an ideal option, not only because of the tactile nature of the work, but also the ability to help change and improve the lives of others in such a personal way.

My personality is well suited to working with a team of others, but I also thrive as a leader and taking on the extra demands that working independently requires. The increasing amount of technology in the discipline of dentistry is a very attractive aspect of the field, and I will embrace the opportunity to throw myself into learning all there is to know about these innovations.

I have taken a variety of steps to gain practical experience in dentistry. I spent 30 working days over the summer observing in different dental settings. I found this experience greatly rewarding, and I believe it has better helped me understand what my days as a future dental professional will be like. I took time to gain knowledge on fillings, crowns, implants, and other forms of orthodontia. More significantly, I have grown to have an even stronger appreciation about the importance of education in proper dental hygiene, particularly in young children. I took pleasure during one experience when I was allowed to demonstrate some basic dental hygiene practices to different children that visited the surgery. This total experience, combined with my love of science and technology, has thoroughly increased my desire to pursue dentistry.

Outside of my academics, I enjoy remaining physically active. I have represented a variety of sports teams, most recently my local rugby club, and have served in leadership roles during this time (including membership secretary and junior club captain). Spending time playing sports has not only helped to build my confidence, but also it has taught me how to properly communicate and work as a team. My sporting pursuits have also improved my hand-eye coordination, tested my reflexes, and increased my overall level of patience. It has also helped in my character building and self-discipline, which I believe will aid me greatly when it comes to dental practice.

In addition to schooling and my time spent playing sports, I dedicate my weekends to working with underprivileged children and children with special needs. This has served to strengthen my will to serve the most vulnerable, whilst showing me how strong and inspiring even the smallest people can be. These experiences have increased my mental strength and taught me some of my most valuable life lessons. I take every opportunity to raise awareness and funds to support different missions that benefit these groups of children, and am motivated to continue this work for as long as I can in the foreseeable future.

Throughout my schooling, my extra-curricular activities, and my overall life experiences thus far, I have remained strong in my will to become a practising dental professional. I'm aware of the amount of work and the demands of both the degree and the profession, but I know that I have all that it takes to become a successful dentistry student and, one day, dental surgeon.