

Sample Personal Statement

What degree are you pursuing?

- Bachelor of Science in Biology
- I am currently exploring my options in the area of biology. I am taking a variety of science classes to learn more about specific disciplines within this field. Last quarter I enrolled in an ecology course at our college. I found that I really enjoy this area of biology, especially the focus on contemporary problems. This quarter I joined the ecology club to explore even more opportunities in this field.
- I have been exploring the area of biology in our career library at college. I am especially interested in the area of aquatic biology.

What is your major?

- Early Childhood Education.
- Education is my major. I am interested in either early childhood education or specific education.

Why did you choose this major?

- My work experience with the OPS District summer school program has allowed me to explore the field of teaching.
- I work ten hours a week at the UNO Daycare as my work study assignment. I especially enjoy working with the children in the pre-school.
- I have completed two eleven-week practicum experiences at Indian Hill and Dundee Elementary Schools. These experiences have allowed me to explore first hand the field of teaching.
- I have explored programs of study in the field of education at these area colleges...
- I spoke with several educators from our area at the UNO career fair. They shared their insights about the field of education, the college coursework required, and the certification process.

What makes you a good candidate for success in your chosen field?

- I have explored the nursing field in my career education class. I have also spoken with people in the profession to find out about their education and opportunities within the field.

- I have volunteered at UNMC for six months and found that I am able to provide comfort and care to patients while they are hospitalized. I especially enjoyed working in the pediatrics unit.
- I have worked at the Immanuel Fontenelle Home for the past year serving food to the residents. My exposure to the field of nursing had been very positive and I have decided to pursue it as my educational major.

Describe the community activities in which you have participated.

- Last year I completed the 20-hour training program to become a volunteer at the crisis center. This year I volunteer five hours a week on the crisis hotline.
- I am an Americorps reading tutor at Dundee Elementary School. I volunteer five hours a week.
- I participated in the Red Cross blood drawing this year.

List your school offices/activities/clubs.

- I tutor students in math and science approximately 10 hours a week at UNO.
- I play the saxophone in the UNO jazz band.
- I am the student representative from the Hockey Club.
- I am a member/officer of the TRIO club.
- I helped with the food drive for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets at UNO.
- My instructors nominated me for the leadership conference this year. I participated in the two-day event.
- I was on the president's list five out of six quarters. This is awarded to students who have earned a 3.85 grade average and above.

In what way will this scholarship assist you with your education?

- Our family's income is in the middle range, and I do not qualify for federal financial aid grants. My parents have saved money, and they will help as much as they can. I also have worked at summer jobs and have saved money for my college education. But after calculating my budget using the college's worksheet, I am still not able to meet my educational expenses. This scholarship will allow me to decrease the amount of loan indebtedness I will incur.
- My family's income is low, and my parents will not be able to contribute much to my college education. They will help me as much as they are able. I qualify for a Pell Grant, but that will not cover my educational expenses. I have worked at summer jobs, and have saved money for college, but it is not enough. This scholarship will allow me to pursue my educational goals.