

Personal Statement: Nursing School

When I was a little girl, I dreamt of a career that would empower me to help people, supporting them whenever they needed comfort or felt vulnerable. Despite the numerous opportunities where I got to lend a helping hand, it was not until 2020 that my desire to help grew strongest. I still remember the state of panic that the pandemic triggered as it rapidly claimed one life after another. As the news continually reported the rising number of COVID-19-related fatalities, my instincts to serve rapidly kicked in. I brainstormed internally to determine how I could help make the world better in light of the prevailing circumstances. I quickly realized that the best means of doing this was by aspiring to be one of the unsung heroes of the healthcare sector: the nurse. The selfless devotion with which nurses sought to heal society at a time when many minded their safety was the kind of benefaction to which I aspired.

I graduated from Borough of Manhattan Community College with a 3.22 GPA, having attained an Associate in Science and majored in Human Service. The academic experience exposed me to a foundational understanding of human service. I gained competence in emotional intelligence (EQ), interpreting social policy, and advocacy. Building upon this, I advanced my education by pursuing a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Sociology which equipped me with analytical, cross-cultural, and critical thinking skills. Pursuing two degrees was not easy, but I resiliently pushed through while never losing sight of my vision to help others and my self-concept of service to others. I also worked as a campus security assistant for three years which taught me the value of serving all kinds of people without discrimination.

As an immigrant and a black woman, the values of inclusivity and diversity are dear to me. I believe the best way to uphold these values as an aspiring nurse is through training in culturally competent nursing practice. Through cultural sensitivity, I can offer quality care to diverse populations, especially minorities and underserved communities often overlooked in the healthcare system. For this reason, I am attracted to Sunny Downstate Health Science University's (SUNY) Accelerated Nursing Program. Its faculty is committed to training novice practitioners to assume nursing roles that cater to families and communities across the health-illness continuum.

My goal is to gain knowledge and skills in promoting equitable health outcomes through proficiency in clinical prevention and population health. I also intend to become adept in leveraging safety and quality improvement approaches and information technology (IT) to devise the best patient-centered care for my patients. Eventually, I plan to open a nursing school in my home country to teach nursing courses and mentor the next generation of healthcare heroes committed to delivering equitable care to diverse populations.