

## **Personal Statement for Optometry School** (Important Details Changed)

I have decided to pursue a career in optometry based on my studies of the basic medical sciences at University X, my leadership activities as the President of the Pre-Optometry Association, my experiences interning with numerous optometrists and at Famous Optometry Clinic, and my clinical experiences working at the PT Training Center and the Large Hospital Group.

My studies of human anatomy, embryology, kinesiology, and human psychology at University X have given me a strong foundation in the basic medical sciences, which will help me as a future optometrist. Math-intensive courses, such as math analysis, advanced statistics, calculus, and physics, have helped me to improve my mathematical skills and given me a basic understanding of the optics of convex and concave lenses. These skills will be useful in conducting eye tests and helping my future patients select appropriate lenses.

As President of the Pre-Optometry Student Association at University X, I have recruited several prominent local optometrists and optometry schools to come to campus and mentor students. These optometrists and educators have inspired me and other club members by sharing their professional experiences, their career path, and their passion for optometry.

Over the past year, I have interned with eight different optometrists in the City Z area, including Dr. A, Dr. B, Dr. C, Dr. D, Dr. E, Dr. F, Dr. H, and Dr. I. Each of these internships gave me exposure to different aspects of optometry. I observed comprehensive eye exams, glaucoma screening, and contact lens fittings. I assisted in the treatment of pediatric and adult patients with eye afflictions, such as red eye, a cornea ulcer (secondary to overuse of contact lenses), and cataracts. I gained a greater understanding of the types of patients and diseases commonly seen and treated by optometrists.

Dr. C has been my family optometrist since 2006. He is a prominent member of My Ethnic Group community of City Z and a personal mentor for me. During my internship, he was so impressed with my work that he asked me to join his practice after I finish optometry school. My career goal is to follow in Dr. C's footsteps and found my own independent full-service optometry office, where I could conduct clinical exams, help patients select eyewear or contacts, and serve the optometry needs of the community. Being in private practice will give me the independence to ensure that all of my patients get the time and quality of care that they deserve at a price they can afford. I also intend to participate in the Nonprofit Z's global optometry initiatives or become involved in rural optometry at least twice a year.

My volunteer experiences at Optometry Clinic have greatly expanded my knowledge of the field of optometry. I helped many patients select glasses and contact lens and instructed patients in appropriate eyeglass cleaning and care. It is extremely rewarding to know that I can have a positive impact on the life of my future patients as an optometrist.

Prior to working in Optometry Clinic, I had extensive volunteer and internship experience in the Nursing Department at Large Hospital Group and at the PT Training Center in Los Angeles. At Large Hospital Group, I answered phones and helped physicians and nurses in a fast-paced clinical environment. At the PT Training Center, I took vital signs and gathered information from patients for use in their subsequent care. These experiences inspired my interest in the healthcare field and in providing patient care.

I come from a humble background. I am the daughter of a housekeeper. I immigrated to this country only 8 years ago without knowing how to speak English. Still, my parents always encouraged me to pursue educational opportunities and seek a strong career path. By becoming an optometrist, I hope to follow a rewarding career and make my parents very proud.