

Goal Statement

I first moved to Seward, Alaska the summer before my sixth grade year. It turned my life onto a whole new path, but it was the best thing that ever happened to me. Alaska has played a big part in shaping me into the person I am today. I have developed a strong love for the mountains, streams, lakes, and ocean. Living here has given me an insight to what I want for the rest of my life, the small town, tight community, and numerous outdoor activities. This is why I am considering pursuing environmental science and recreation studies in my post-secondary education. I have had some experience in these fields of work as a summer employee National Park Service and as a volunteer with the Resurrection Bay Conservation Alliance (RBCA). I worked as an interpreter last summer at Exit Glacier in Kenai Fjords National Park and while I was there I spent the entirety of my time working one on one with visitors both on the trails and in the visitor center. I was very drawn into the direct work with public and being able to work outside in the places I love. With my time volunteering with the RBCA I lead clean up groups on remote beaches in Resurrection Bay, assisted in pulling junk cars out of lakes and rivers, and I helped with fund raising events. Overall I have had a very positive experience with this group and look forward to my continued involvement with them. This coming summer I plan to be working on a trail crew for the Alaska State Parks and will be able to see another side of this type of work, maintaining and safely developing the places where I spend so much of my time. I am attracted to both aspects of this environmental work, educating the public about our world and working directly with it to protect and conserve the places we call home. My goal is further my education in environmental science and recreation so that I can make a career out of doing what I love.

Life is a journey, a long and incredible story unique to each of the seven billion people alive. My story is approaching 19 years in the making now, and for me, several main activities describe me best. Snowboarding, snow machining, and the Alaskan outdoors have gradually defined me as someone who pushes the limit just enough to fail, but not enough to quit. I cherish time with my friends, girlfriend, and family. Technology is a constant fascination to me, and probably universally. However, great and imperative as these things are, what separates each of us are the defining moments when we take step outside of our comfort zone, and really give meaning to our lives.

Ever since I was a young boy my grandfather always taught me the importance of working diligently, being a team player, and understanding the nature of the world we live in. He taught me the importance of Math and science, and in the process, helped encourage my desire for applying these skills to the world. It has been an arduous process narrowing my focus to a particular field, but through much research and introspection, I finally chose engineering as the best fit for the basis of my career goals.

For many people, being prepared for a career means, where and how am I going to make a sustainable amount of money? For me, it means understanding how I can contribute to the world in way that my gifts are best used and I am pleased with the life I have lived. The transcendentalists once said to live deliberately. This could apply differently to different people. In my life it means following my passion of engineering to wherever it takes me. Money should not be the instigator, and that is most important lesson for me when preparing for a future career.

While earning my Bachelors at the University of Fairbanks Alaska, I'll be inquiring about a pre-engineering internship. I'll work part-time as well as take classes for Engineering as a full-time student. From there I will either get my masters or remain in Alaska with the intentions of working on the possible new gas line project. I see Alaska as a blank sheet of paper with unlimited opportunity. With a Mechanical Engineering degree I would like to be on the forefront of improved processes of energy: Petroleum, hydroelectric, geo-thermal, wind energy, solar energy, and water/heat exchange.

A degree by itself cannot justify the motives or the original creativity of a person. I chose Engineering based on my aspirations and dreams that it can help me fulfill. My overall goal is to work passionately and creatively as an Engineer to create original ideas and innovations, to work as a contributing member of society while truly living life to the fullest.

I hope to challenge have an opportunity to help innovate the ways we generate and allocate our energy resources worldwide, not just on a local scale. I qualified to volunteer in impoverished countries. I see a need for people with the willpower to get out and really attempt to make a big difference. I know there are more efficient processes to be used and discovered, and with an engineering degree in hand I would like to be on the forefront of redefining the meaning of efficient energy.

Alarms screamed, sounding a code one, meaning a high priority patient. It was two weeks into my internship at Providence Anchorage Emergency Room, and it was my first code one. Nurses bustled in and out of the trauma room to get the bed ready for the incoming patient. I glanced with an obvious curiosity into the equipped room, but no one acknowledged me because the purpose of a shadow is to observe and learn in the furthest corner.

The paramedic door buzzed and in came in a man in his fifties. I could hear his deep heaving and see the shine of sweat on his scarlet face. The man's breathing began to grow even more labored and he clutched his chest yelling incoherent words.

Just as they got the IV in, the heart monitor beeped like a flustered bird. Suddenly, the beeping just turned into a white noise. This was the first time I saw a person die. Nurses and doctors started to scream out orders and traffic in the room escalated. The strongest male nurse started to push on his chest. The defibrillator was finally powered up and the handler yelled, "Clear". The handler screamed "Clear" one more time, when everyone in the room grew quiet. The heart monitor jumped a pulse. After a few more seconds, the man opened his eyes and gasp for air. Cheers broke out and I started to cry with joy.

That was the day I knew I wanted to be a Registered Nurse. Since adolescence I wanted to work in the medical field, but I didn't know which occupation. After shadowing a nurse for a semester I saw that it was perfect for me. I love working with people, listening to their concerns, and caring for them. I think helping the community by saving lives is the most cherishing and rewarding feeling I can have. I choose Registered Nursing because I know twenty years from now I won't go into work dreading the day, but think "how will I be able to help someone?"

Presently, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Pre-Major Nursing at University of Alaska Anchorage. My goal is to graduate on time; this means a rigorous schedule and many hours of studying. I plan on working full time every summer and focus intently on my college career during the school year. After I'm done with college, I want to work at the Alaska Native Medical Center and/or Providence in the ER. After I get my RN I would like to go back to school after a couple years to get my Advanced Nurse Practitioner degree in Family Practice.

I recently graduated from Seward High School one semester early. Graduating early was a difficult decision; however, it has opened up new opportunities. Being in college let me apply for the First Alaskans Summer Internship Program. They were impressed by my accomplishments as a freshman and accepted me for the 2014 program!

For my high school senior project I created a recycling club that I put a hundred plus hours of volunteer work into. This is a student run club that picks up all the bins of paper, plastic and cans and brings them to recycling facilities. I also did presentations to the school to help educate students on recycling. Helping Alaska create efficient waste removal is one goal I want to achieve.

I have worked at Alaska Nellie's Roadhouse for two years during the summer as a waitress. My duties were serving customers, opening and closing the restaurant, managing the cash register, and training incoming hosts, and bussers. Working at Nellie's taught me the responsibility of saving money. Having a paycheck in my name, and budgeting my spending made me consider if I wanted to go to the movies every weekend or go to college. Every cent I earn goes into my future.

Being a part of National Honor Society and Student Council gave me a lot of opportunities for volunteer work. In NHS we have helped our community's animal shelter and

can food bank. We also helped informing our school about donating blood to the Blood Bank of Alaska in which I coordinated. Community is an important thing for me. After I am done with college I want to work in Alaska and help enhance and strengthen our community with either health or environmental conservation.

I have shadowed at Anchorage Providence ER, Seward Providence Medical and Care Center, and Seward Mountain Haven. Being a shadow showed me how important it is to volunteer as a mentor. These opportunities have helped me strengthen my career path, created networks, and learn what it is really like to work in a hospital. When I graduate from UAA I would love to mentor my own intern or shadow. Being in a real world work environment not only educates a student but builds memories and character. It also helps the student figure out if that field is what they want for a career instead of wasting valuable time and money.

In high school I tried to at least one sport or extracurricular activity once a year to stay healthy and create friendships. As a freshman I was a Junior Varsity Volleyball player. Sophomore year I got my Personal Care Assistance License, First Aid license, and CPR license. Junior year I went to regions for the 100 and 200 meter in Track and shadowed at Anchorage Providence ER. Senior year I shadowed and volunteered at Seward Providence.

Throughout high school have received an Excellence in Biology Award, an Excellence in Anatomy Award, the UA Scholars Award, the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists Award of Excellence, and of course Honor Roll all four years of high school. Even with all these achievements, adversity seems to stay close to my family. My father passed away when I was fifteen years old from lung cancer. My mother is a single parent of three. She is a Certified Nurse Assistant, but is living paycheck by paycheck. She cannot spare any money to bring me through college. This is why I work and apply for as many scholarships as I can. I think that anyone who has dedication, time management, and hard work can accomplish their goals no matter how vast their misfortune seems. I am an active member in my community, in school activities, and still maintain a 3.891 GPA. I am focused and committed for my future. I will not let my adversity bring me down.

Accomplishments

Throughout my high school career I have accomplished many things. Freshmen year I joined the volleyball team and continued to hold a place on the varsity team and was named team captain senior year. In the winter I took a break from sports and instead volunteered to help co-coach the middle school volleyball team. Then in the spring I resumed sports and was apart of the soccer team all four years. Along with my involvement in sports I have stayed on top of my academics and been on honor roll all semesters of high school. Therefore, with being presented on honor roll I have received an academic award for holding a 3.5 or above GPA for three consecutive semesters. The results of those grades required hard dedication to my college classes, Philosophy and College Math, my enrollment in 12 grade literature, Chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology.

Outside of school I continue my involvement in the community. I have been apart of the Teen Youth Center and Teen Council for 8 years and have accumulated more the 338 volunteer hours. In addition I am apart of Nation Honors Society and have been for two years. Additionally, I have taken a mentorship at Glacier Family Medicine to shadow in the radiology department and help better myself for my future education.

Aspirations/ Goals

Getting the opportunity to mentorship at Glacier Family Medicine Clinic has given me the inspiration to seek a line of work in radiology. Having hands on experience has only confirmed my passion for this line of work.

I have been accepted to attend the University of Alaska Anchorage in the fall and have been accepted into the Radiologic Technology program. I plan to get my associates degree in radiology then continue to progress in the health field and receive my bachelors in nursing.

I know that education plays a huge role in my future. I am eligible for the UA Scholars Award and the Alaska Performance Scholarship which will provide about one third of tuition. Receiving this scholarship will benefit my education and aspirations.