



Sample Personal Statement #1 for College Application

Original Prompt: In an essay of 300 words or less, explain your motivation to transfer from your current/previous institution to Illinois and how your academic interests and/or professional goals will be fulfilled in your intended program of study.

Originally I had been accepted to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's College of Business but financial pressures pushed me toward Parkland instead, a defining moment that proved to be the biggest business decision of my life. Despite my desire to spend all four years at UIUC, I realized that I could finish the equivalent of my first two years at Parkland for free, my first step toward long-term financial success. I knew that in order to handle the finances of others I needed to master my own and learn the ins and outs of money to lay down the foundation for my career. By taking charge of my personal finances first to begin my journey, it was clear to me that this external experience and immersion would prepare me to become a more qualified applicant than before, a better businessman.

Through my studies in finance and accounting, I intend to become the CEO of my own company. Currently, I am running a tutoring business with 7 full-time students, in addition to my own full-time studies, for the second consecutive year and plan on doing so throughout my junior and senior years as well because I want to learn how to manage a company and gain perspective outside the classroom. Furthermore, I single-handedly resurrected the Business Club and Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda chapter here at Parkland, boasting over 50 members. Together we are working with business students and MBA graduate Kerris Lee from the U of I on an extensive marketing campaign to bring more attention to Willard Airport, an initiative of former University of Illinois Chancellor Wise. By integrating my studies with these opportunities, I am confident that embracing the College of Business will provide me the experience necessary to succeed in the business world.