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What qualities or unique characteristics do you possess that would allow you to contribute to the university community?"

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### Just Average

I was never a bright student, I struggled with test taking and have never been skilled at really anything. I honestly never cared to be the fastest on a team, or the smartest in the class. Being average is hard because you are mediocre at best. Not good but not bad either. ... Being average was just the kind of kid I was.

Nevertheless, Here I was being dropped off at Emory University, I stepped out of the car and a Covid and to be briefed on how drop-off will go. breeze surrounded me like a warm welcome. I got invited here by a program called Envision sponsored by World Srides to be a part of the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. I was promptly introduced to a man in a blue shirt who directed me to a room to get checked for

Everything happened so fast and soon enough I was in my own dorm room meeting my roommate for the next nine days. I remember saying bye to my mom who stayed in a hotel a few blocks away; my mother was never too far which always made me feel safe but I turned around and realized that this experience was something I was going to do alone without her help.

The next day came around fast and I made friends pretty quickly. Together we helped each other through rotations( which were just a mini-lesson on basic medical training, and team bonding

exercises to show our instructor we understood what we learned.) I spent so much time with my friends I meet there, but when I was alone I took a chance to just breathe in everything I had experienced. No one in my family has ever gotten an opportunity like this I was the first to be a part of the medical forum in my whole entire family... I felt different this time not average or mediocre but special and hungry not for food but for a chance to learn more. Every night we had to attend seminars hosted by the program to introduce us to doctors of various fields. One Night there were four doctors on the stage, but one stood out to me. She wore all pink and had Ivory skin that glowed beneath the lights, she was stunning, and most important of all she was a Gynecologist. She spoke for a while about what she did and how she had impacted her patients' lives. After the seminar, I still had many questions and I needed to see her again. I found her leaving a building east of my next class; I don't remember her name, but I remember she told me about how much there is to do as an OBGYN and how I would never be bored.

I walked back to my class and we were doing breakout rooms and my instructor scolded me for being late I apologized and sat down to review medical ethics to prepare for tomorrow. That night I realized it isn't about being smart that makes these doctors stand out it is about their passion for learning and their love for their field. Once the program was over and I came home I knew that it was time for me to learn and grow into a passion that made me feel joyful. The Next year I knew that I wanted to take advantage of my young years. Joining clubs and finding new ways to stand out. Being Average wasn't enough I wanted to use my high school experience to prove that I may not be super talented or smart, but I am driven and I will find a way to accomplish my goal to become a Doctor so I can prove to myself that I am more than just a test score. I have accomplished so much since Emory and I am blessed to have a one in a lifetime

opportunity to become an Envision Allumnai. Once I received my certificate of Achievement I knew that I could get more. I realize that life will give you what you put in and I want the best now. Not average.