

Values, personal attributes, and challenges gained from the mexican immigrant's l...

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**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The paper "Values Which Have Best Prepared the Mexican Immigrant to Enter the Healthcare Profession" is a great example of an assignment on medical science.

1) What values and personal attributes gained from your life experiences have best prepared you to enter the profession of medicine? (Do not exceed one page; single-spaced)

One distinct factor is my Mexican heritage. Both of my parents are Mexican immigrants who have had limited education but have managed to effectively instill the core values of persistence, integrity and a good work ethic among their children. Our financial constraints have compelled me to stop school temporarily to work full time to sustain my family and myself. The first of these instances is with PTRL, where I worked as a laboratory technician, and at Pfizer, where I served as an animal laboratory technician. Both experiences have thoroughly exposed me to the rigor of scientific research, and have strengthened my resolve to pursue a career in medical research. My volunteer experiences as a tutor-mentor at Making Changes Freedom School and at Tutor Experts have given me the opportunity to design curriculum for youths. Apart from imparting academic knowledge to them, perhaps a more special aspect would be being able to serve as a role model. Realizing that you have been part of their success makes me feel deep pride in being a tutor-volunteer. These have also influenced my decision into pursuing a medical career, realizing the dire needs and issues of marginalized communities to which these youths belong. These have developed in me a deep sense of altruism, selflessness, and the desire to help the needy - characteristics that may potentially form a strong drive to

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become the best doctor that one can be.

I have also had the chance to volunteer with the American Red Cross Mobile.

This has helped me come to terms with my Mexican ethnicity; at first, I thought that my heritage was something embarrassing. But having realized that I could leverage my proficiency in the Spanish language and help patients, I started to have profound pride in my roots.

Finally, because our financial difficulties have made me realize even more the value of good education, I strived to be an achiever academically. These struggles have come into fruition, in my academic achievements and scholarships, among them, being included in the Dean's list at the University of California in Berkeley majoring in Public Health; being a National Dean's list from 2004 until the present; a member of the National Scholars Honor Society; a member of the Chicanos in Health Education; a member of the Biology Scholars Program; and a recipient of several scholarships, including the Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship, the Hispanic College Fund Scholarship, the USA Funds Access to Education Scholarship, the Doctors Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship and the Hispanic Fund Scholarship. This passion for academic excellence is yet another critical factor in pursuing a medical career. 2) While you were growing up, did you experience any of the following types of adversity (Economic, Educational, Ethnic/Cultural, and Family)? If yes, please describe the nature of the adversity. No More than 2-3 sentences MAX.

I have experienced financial difficulties throughout my life, compelling me to work full-time to sustain my education and the basic needs of my family. As a result of these financial constraints, my academic performance was

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affected because of the very difficult struggle of balancing school and work - then again, I have viewed these as temporary setbacks that have even reinforced my desire to become a doctor and have given me a chance to be exposed to scientific research. Finally, I have also experienced ethnic and cultural adversity, being discriminated because of my Mexican ethnicity; however, because of my experience of helping patients at the American Red Cross Blood where I have effectively helped patients through my Spanish language proficiency, this view has changed - now, I am sincerely proud of being a new generation Mexican-American.