

Business Fellows

The Business Fellows Program provides students a four-year, experiential, team-based scholastic, business experience with like-minded students. Working with a dedicated director, students are provided personal mentoring, networking, travel and opportunities to learn about business careers and the ever-changing business world from scholars and practitioners.

Business Fellow Essay Questions:

1. Why do you want to earn a business degree? (400 words)

I want to earn a business degree because I feel I have the traits required to be successful, but also understand that I have much to learn. I also look forward to challenging myself to develop my capabilities and the process of discovering the best business career fit for me.

My historical success has been driven by my unique combination of a strong work ethic, analytical capabilities, communication skills and an ability to work effectively in groups in a competitive environment. I believe a business degree will allow me to further develop my leadership skills and prepare me to be able to solve a wide variety of problems so I can help make better decisions at the companies I work for.

I first became interested in business at the beginning of high school when I talked to some of my friends' parents about what they did for a living. Those conversations helped me understand that there are many different types of jobs I could do and would provide me with many possible career paths.

During my junior year I took an Introduction to Business Class and learned about the various business functions that could become possible college majors and careers. At the completion of this class, we took a financial literacy certification exam, and I won an award for having one of the highest grades in my high school. Based on my success, my teacher and guidance counselor recommended that I take AP Microeconomics during my senior year.

I am thankful for that recommendation, as AP Microeconomics is my favorite class and I have really enjoyed the topics that we have discussed and now understand how that relates to the real world. For example, one day in class my teacher was discussing how AT&T was a Monopoly and due to anti-trust regulations had to be broken up into seven Baby Bells to form several smaller regional companies.

As it turns out, my grandfather worked at AT&T his entire career and I was able to ask him about what it was like working at AT&T during that time. While he initially said it was a big challenge, it created many opportunities and ultimately many of the Baby Bells were able to achieve success as they grew in different ways. Once I graduate with my business degree, I look forward to entering a dynamic and exciting work environment.

2. Why should we accept you as a business fellow? (300 words)

I would make an excellent business fellow because my level of engagement and commitment to pursue excellence have allowed me to have a positive impact in many settings. Academically, I organized my project groups and served as a main presenter as I deliver effective oral presentations that quickly get into the main points and provide convincing support of our conclusions.

I am not afraid of challenges and consistently work hard to be the best version of myself and to support those around me. These attributes are why my coaches awarded me an individual achievement award for my dedication to the team and hard work during the year at the football banquet.

I joined the wrestling team as a freshman even though I had never wrestled before. While wrestling has a steep learning curve, I was surrounded by coaches and helpful teammates who believed in me and encouraged me to work hard. While I only had two varsity wins that first season, by the time I got to my junior year, I had 18 wins, the second most on our team. As I got older, I found great satisfaction in mentoring and encouraging my younger teammates to help them develop the same way I did.

At our high school open house events I worked the wrestling team table to recruit future wrestlers. This provided me the opportunity to tell my story about the benefits of participating in sports to prospective students and their parents. As a result of my efforts, I helped to grow the program so much that this year it is the largest team in school history.

I am confident that bringing my work ethic, positive energy, leadership, communication skills and desire to give back to improve those around me would make me an ideal business fellow candidate.

3. What are you genuinely interested in and why? (300 words)

I am interested in working hard to become the best version of myself by participating in volunteer and academic projects that have a specific purpose where I can see a direct tangible benefit of my efforts. For example, I have volunteered my time for many causes but my favorite was the Polar Plunge into the Atlantic Ocean during the winter which benefits the Special Olympics of New Jersey.

This was my favorite because of the excitement and magnitude of the event. The countdown to jump in the ocean was like New Years Eve in the middle of the day. The participating groups had very creative themes, names and costumes and ranged in age from kids to grandparents. To be a part of the positive energy from nearly 5,500 people that raised approximately \$2 million for a terrific cause was very satisfying and is why I will be participating again this year.

Academically, I have enjoyed challenging group projects where we combined several perspectives to reach a common goal and present our findings to the class. To be successful I have had to become a better listener and a more effective communicator. It has been very satisfying to have my classmates request me to be in their group and ask if I can lead the oral presentations.

When I look at how far I have come during high school, I am very excited about the future development I will experience in college. During the High Point Open House, Dr. Nido Qubein had a quote that resonated with me when he said "Show me your friends, and I will show you your future." I feel being surrounded by students that share my values and are motivated to help others will allow me to become the best version of myself.