

Personal History Statement

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I have two goals in life. Firstly, I aspire to become an outstanding computer engineer and create value for my business and clients, as well as society, through my work and knowledge. My second goal in life is to do as much as I can to render help to those who need it. In order to fulfill these two goals, I have to better cultivate my sense of social responsibility and leadership skills, and further my studies and improve my research capabilities.

Since I was in secondary school, I took part in many volunteer activities, such as visiting the elderly in the old folks' home, as well as visiting orphans and teaching them English and Math. My parents and I also helped to fund the education of several poor children who lived in remote areas as they could not afford their school fees. Although in China, education is still the top priority and volunteering took up much of my time, I still felt it was rewarding because helping those in need gave me a sense of satisfaction and contentment.

In 2010, I had the privilege of admitting into one of the top universities in China, Tsinghua University. The rigorous lessons made for even less spare time, but I still did my best to volunteer as much as I could. Since my freshman year, I organized and led over 10 undergraduates to teach computer skills to retired teachers who did not know how to operate a computer. We taught them basic skills, such as how to use the Microsoft Office software, basic operations of the computer, how to send emails etc. We worked hard and eventually, the retirees grasped the operation of the computers. Through this project we managed to enrich and improve their quality of life in their old age. Because of my exceptional contribution to the community public welfare and good leadership skills, I was awarded one of the most prestigious awards for volunteerism in my university, the Four Star Volunteer of Tsinghua, and became the first student in our department to receive this award.

As I make the transition from being a volunteer member to a volunteer leader, I hope to serve society even more. I know that in leadership skills are very important to achieve my goal, and I have always been trying to cultivate my leadership skills. In recent years, as the leader of the Tsinghua University Buddy Program, I have organized various discussions and talks, and trained my team members to help international students in Tsinghua better understand Chinese culture. Through being a project leader, I learned to co-ordinate internal relationships within the department, deal with conflicting views, allocate work effectively, monitor each member's work progress to ensure smooth implementation and deal with unforeseen situations. I believe that these experiences are valuable to my future work and community service projects.

The University of California, Berkeley has always been a dream school of mine. Not only does it cultivate generations of outstanding scientists and engineers, it also focuses on sharpening its students' leadership skills and social responsibility. I hope that through studying at UC Berkeley, I can

learn the latest, most advanced computer technology and take part in research projects. At the same time, I also hope to take part in Berkeley's community service student groups, and I look forward to sharing my experiences in volunteering with them.