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Extenuating Circumstances

Throughout my educational career, I suffered from a condition known as attention-deficit-hyperactivity-disorder (ADHD). Because of this situation, I struggled academically, especially with my Algebra class in which I would often get distracted in. However, through perseverance, persistence, and connecting with different people, I overcame the challenges associated with ADHD and sustained a successful college experience and job.

During my freshman year in high-school, Algebra was a main struggle for me since ADHD made the content of the subject difficult for me to understand and pay attention to. Because of this, I would often daydream about unrelated materials such as movies and weekend hobbies. With the internal distractions occurring during class, I missed the majority of important content. Because of my ADHD, I also struggled to talk to my teacher about the content and ask questions since I didn't know how to approach her. Because of my difficulty in approaching my teacher, I was unable to receive the help necessary to do well on tests. The poor test scores prompted my teacher to arrange a conference with my parents, which resulted in additional mandatory homework, which I did not care to do.

Though I found the homework tedious and irrelevant, I progressively recognized the importance of math, a good grade in class, and my condition with ADHD. All these factors pushed me to change my indifference and inattention to the class. I would start by arriving to math class ten minutes early and staying ten minutes after class to talk to the teacher about the

current content and obtain notes to get an idea of what to expect. In turn, I would get to know my teacher on a personal level, in addition to learning the course content more efficiently.

Throughout my highschool and college career I would continue to persevere and practice not only book problems but social interactions with my teachers and peers. To accomplish that goal, I would host study groups to prepare for tests and to ace the class, as well as visiting my teacher more frequently. My hard work and dedication with countering the challenges with ADHD would help me progress through math, which would lead me to get 'A's through the levels of high school and college math such as trigonometry and calculus. My performance in calculus especially, stood out to my professor, which prompted her to hire me as a supplemental instructor for her class. This job would involve me hosting study groups, explaining concepts, and working out problems on the board every other day and get paid in doing so.

Although I might have had to deal with the adversity of ADHD, which caused me to be distracted from class, I didn't stop trying to succeed in school. After much persistent practice with math and social interaction, I overcame the challenges of ADHD and academic adversities. As a result, I was able to obtain and continue maintaining a successful job as a supplemental instructor for calculus. In overcoming my challenges, I am now prepared and excited to further enhance my skills that I have developed along the way to become a well-rounded, successful student at a university.