

1. Explain your interest in serving as this board position. If you are applying for multiple positions, briefly describe your interest in each.

Although there are plenty of things I could say regarding this topic, I guess it all boils down to a few reasons. I believe that, after 3 years of involvement with AMSA, it is time for me to give back. As stereotypical as that sounds, it's true; AMSA has truly been one of the formative forces of my college experience, and I would not be in my current position otherwise, as a student, as a leader, as a pre-medical professional excited for what lies ahead. All of this, I have AMSA to thank. In the following year, I plan to take what I learned in my years here, and contribute to the same community that helped me mature as a young physician-in-training. I wish to see AMSA become the club that members can reflect positively back upon after acceptance into medical school, and will work hard with my board of officers to attain that goal.

2. Explain your strengths and how they will contribute to your performance as a board member. If you are applying for multiple positions, be specific about how your strengths support each position you are applying for.

a. Strong sense of leadership, vision, and ambition: In my years of leadership experience since high school, I have come to learn that I like to approach my role by building and maintaining a strong sense of community, transparency, and individual autonomy. I have found that everything else of importance—efficiency, productivity, and fun—follow naturally. However, organizations stagnate without a direction, and it is the leader's responsibility to prevent this. Therefore, as detailed below, I have very clear goals on that I would like to see AMSA accomplish in the following year.

b. Organized: Look at the formatting my response to this question. You don't have to dig around for my key points; BAM, all right there. In any role of leadership, I believe effective organization is a key quality necessary in maintaining efficiency and order. In my year as Community Service Chair, I kept a neat and organized binder with careful documentation of every member's hours and attendance. Furthermore, I also created and followed a typed agenda for every committee meeting, and uploaded any updates and information added during the meeting afterwards for all members to see and refer to. It was also no easy task acting as the correspondent for roughly two dozen volunteering events, and for this I meticulously kept a calendar in my binder with dates, plans, and emails.

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3. Describe your experience in previous leadership roles.

I have held leadership roles since my high school years, starting off as the Chief Volunteer Coordinator for a nonprofit organization called Friends for Children with Special Needs (FCSN) and the Vice President of the Junior Statesmen of America (JSA), a political speech/debate club. In college, I initially involved myself in ASUC, ultimately rising to the position of Grants Deputy Chief of Staff under the office of the Academic Affairs Vice President (AAVP). The most recent and relevant position I have held is this year's Community Service Chair. Under my term, I successfully led a committee of 10 students and several general club members on 25+ medically related volunteer outings throughout the year. Despite some difficulty keeping everyone organized and efficient during meetings, under my leadership we developed a strong community of friends and co-workers interested in AMSA. On my personal evaluations conducted

in the last committee meeting of the year, my 10 members rated my overall effectiveness as chair an average of 9.3/10, and their overall experience in the committee an average of 9.4/10.

4. Describe the goals you have for this position, and how you plan to achieve them. If applying for multiple positions, go into detail about your goals for each position.

There are plenty of health/medicine-oriented organizations on campus. From Red Cross to Global Medical Brigades to Peer Health Exchange, there is no dearth of clubs to join for the pre-med student. However, (besides professional pre-health fraternities and sororities), AMSA is uniquely the only dedicated "pre-medical" organization that I know of. In this sense, I see AMSA as Berkeley's "vanilla" pre-medical organization, and the Wikipedia page for AMSA certainly reflects this view: "the oldest and largest independent associations of physicians-in-training in the United States". With that in mind, I have three words that I would like to see AMSA embody:

a. Mentorship: I joined AMSA as a freshman because I had no idea what being a pre-med student was all about. What classes should I take? What activities should I partake in? How can I survive my first year in college amongst thousands of other clueless students? AMSA helped point me in the right direction during my formative freshman and sophomore years. It was great relief to have the knowledge and experience of older students guiding me. I would like to see this spirit of mentorship continued in AMSA by fostering a stronger relationship between the older and newer members of this community. A great way to achieve this is to instigate some form of official/unofficial peer mentoring, a "big+little" program. I will also create an email account that all officers have access to, available to all members and dedicated specifically toward answering questions regarding the pre-medical path.

b. Community: As I explained above, a strong sense of community is paramount in the success of any group venture. This is even more important in the highly rivalrous, often unfriendly environment a pre-medical student faces at UC Berkeley. I would like to see AMSA become a friendly collection of like-minded individuals (again, with emphasis on mentorship), not a group of overzealous students competing for a position at UCSF. Although sometimes unavoidable, this is not the mentality a future physician should hold toward others. Therefore, I will focus more on community bonding activities and work to blur the lines between different committees.

c. Opportunity: Building off the idea of community opens opportunities. AMSA provides a wealth of invaluable opportunities to the pre-med student, from physician shadowing to volunteering events to a mentorship program with medical students. I mentally categorize the opportunities AMSA provides into two groups. For freshmen and sophomores, AMSA should be primarily about mentorship, guidance, and introducing students to the world of medicine. GMs that cater to this category include Telebears Advising, officer Q&A, and motivational guest speakers such as Dr. Armstrong to impart us with their experience. For juniors and seniors, I see AMSA's role as providing opportunities for students to more deeply understand the medical profession, prepare for different components of medical school application, and to live and think like a physician. Unfortunately, I feel that many members are not aware of/ do not take advantage of these unique opportunities, and I would like to increase both participation and the number of opportunities offered next year. AMSA is at its heart an organization of physicians-in-training, and I will strive to make its services and opportunities reflect just that.

