Paige Vanhulle

SEF Scholarship Essay

3/20/24

Education is my window of opportunity. I feel education should allow a person to grow, both personally and emotionally. When the learning environment is unique and refreshing from the typical day-to-day classroom, it encourages me to dive deeper into the curriculum and jump-starts my desire to learn.

My motivation to attend university is two-fold; I understand that it is both a privilege and a “requirement”. The privilege piece of the equation is I know I have been afforded the unwavering support of my parents and teachers. The requirement aspect can be a scary and overwhelming thing to think about, however, I recognize that the person I want to become and the lifestyle I want to maintain demands a higher education.

In my academic career, there has been success and there has been failure. I have come to understand that there are more good days than there are bad. This knowledge encourages me as I transition into a full-time college student. I know I am prepared, focused, and excited to feel the freedom of a new learning environment.

Like many of my peers, I struggle to answer the question, “What do you want to do when you grow up?” I am confident that my desire to further my education at university will answer this question. I am driven by the need to find unique professors that make me excited to come to class and unlock a whole new world of interests that may lead me to discover a career I am passionate about.