Hello \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I see that you are a MSTP student at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. First off, congratulations! I know once you get to med school, life surely doesn’t get easier, but getting over the hump of being accepted to one of these programs had to be so exciting. Also, I see you got your undergrad degree from \_\_\_\_\_\_. You are the success story, coming from Utah to being part of such a prestigious program.

I am a biology student at Utah Valley University, and I am a Junior, hoping to be admitted to an MSTP for the fall of 2025. I plan on taking a gap year between undergrad and hopefully being admitted to an MSTP program. I am heavily involved in research here on campus, and that has led to my desire to pursue an MSTP degree. I have known I wanted to go into medicine from a young age; I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when I was 11. I had some amazing experiences with doctors, but I also had some very negative experiences as well. I knew from these experiences that I needed to be a resource for future diabetics so their experience would be better than mine!

When I first got to UVU, I saw research as just one of those things that you need to do to get to medical school. As I have spent more and more time in the lab, I have learned about the immense good that can be accomplished from research at academic institutions. As I have learned about research, my opinion has changed drastically. I now feel that I could honestly do more good for future diabetics through biomedical research while seeing patients instead of seeing patients alone.

All this being said, I wanted to reach out to understand your experience with applying to and being accepted to the MSTP at \_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there a time we could set up to have a zoom call and discuss those questions? If your life is crazy busy, that is totally okay as well! If that is the case, would you be willing to answer some questions over email?

Again, I appreciate you taking time to read this email and for paving the path for more Utah students to be admitted to these programs. I am looking forward to your response.

Porter Bischoff

[Pbischoff3.github.io](https://pbischoff3.github.io/)