Please tell us something about yourself, your experiences, or activities that you believe would reflect positively on your ability to succeed at Penn State. This is your opportunity to tell us something about yourself that is not already reflected in your application or academic records. We suggest a limit of 500 words or fewer. Max words: 500

Some activities that reflect on my ability to succeed at PennState are the research projects I have completed, Robotics, and my volunteer work.

I have completed two research projects with guidance from assistant professor Badrinath Kottimukkalur from George Washington University. One project was about predicting recessions using data from the Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED). Another project was about predicting the presence of a malignant or benign tumor from an electronic microscope picture of a Fine Needle Aspiration biopsy taken from the breast. I had to learn Python by myself for this project which was quite difficult. This shows how I pursue my academic interests out of school and that I am able to teach myself difficult concepts through perseverance.

Not only have I completed two research projects outside of school, but I have also participated in robotics outside of school. My interest in robotics started in my sixth grade Gifted Students class when we were learning about Lego Robotics. I was very intrigued by this so in 8th grade I founded and led a First Lego League (FLL) team of all girls. We won first place in our qualifier event in eighth and ninth grade and won a third-place robotics award and the top teamwork award in ninth grade at our regional competition at UPenn. I now mentor a First Lego League Jr. team by giving them tips on how to improve their robot’s structure and code. I am also a part of my school’s First Tech Challenge Robotics Team. I am passionate, dedicated and engaged my STEM interests outside of school.

Moreover, I also volunteer at Lansdale Abington Jefferson Hospital. I have been volunteering since tenth grade for four-five hours a week. I check visitors in the hospital, help people figure out where they are going, and notify nurses about changes in patient rooms. I enjoy giving back to the community while still pursuing my interests.