

PROFESSIONAL GOAL STATEMENT

- 1) What characteristics do you possess that prepare you for an academic program in professional nursing?

The combination of my past academic performance and my personal standards of excellence in all that I do will provide the foundation for my success in Nursing. It will require great time and energy, but I am excited to pursue the challenge. My study habits and skills enable me to gain a full understanding of the subject. I work well in a team or I can function on my own. I know how to seek out help when necessary and I will not settle for being average. Drive and desire for excellence is balanced with a good sense of priorities and I do not often lose track of what is important. I am very aware of what I need to do to be ready for any given situation and am able to manage stress in healthy ways. My husband and family fully support this endeavor and I am mentally, physically and spiritually ready for the task. The rigorous and intense demands of Nursing match my capabilities.

- 2) What are your academic and professional goals?

I am planning to earn a BSN to obtain a fulltime position, and my specialty interest is undetermined at this time. When I was younger I was very interested in midwifery or working in obstetrics or labor and delivery. But over the past three or four years I have experienced the other end of life: death. I was my grandmother's primary care giver and we walked together to the end of her life. The experience was in so many ways like the process of giving birth—something I had never realized. I was very impressed by the knowledge, gentleness and insight of the hospice workers and the way they integrated the whole family into the end of a loved one's life. Currently I am leaning toward hospice nursing, understanding that there is a great need for them because of our aging population but I plan to be open-minded and find the area in which I can contribute the most.

- 3) What significant contributions can you make to the profession of nursing?

The medical field is in crisis today. Nurses are in short supply, doctors are stretched to their limits and fearful of being sued, and patients want to get better without going broke. Medicine is a field in which teamwork is vital, and nurses are the liaison between the patients and the doctors. I am skilled at contributing to a team effort without neglecting the individual. Understanding and working within the bounds of team structure, diligence in my responsibilities, and promoting communication between all involved parties, are strengths that I bring to Nursing. With individuals I am an excellent listener and communicator, able to stay calm and focused under pressure and taking action rather than reacting. Diversity intrigues me and I understand that differences in beliefs and values need to be acknowledged and honored, not judged or ignored. I will be an intelligent, gifted nurse who will provide a strong link between the patient and the medical team.

- 4) Why have you chosen to apply to the PLU School of Nursing?

PLU School of Nursing offers an intense, rigorous, well-balanced education and that is what I desire. Many graduates of the PLU School of Nursing have recommended the school to me, saying that they are very pleased with the education they received. Recommendations like that carry great weight because they are based on personal evidence. Another very important component to my education that PLU offers is the blending of a spiritual foundation into a solid approach to academics. Nursing deals with the whole person—body, mind and soul and I desire an education that integrates faith and profession. Lastly, PLU offers flexible start dates. That option indicates that they care about their students. It is an honor to be considered for admission to PLU School of Nursing. Thank You.