

From Setback to Purpose

During my second year of college, I struggled academically while balancing family responsibilities. My father's sudden illness required me to become a caregiver, coordinating appointments and managing medications. Navigating the healthcare system from a patient's perspective revealed both its strengths and its gaps.

Although my grades initially suffered, the experience strengthened my resolve. I improved my time management, sought mentorship, and rebuilt my academic performance. More importantly, I developed resilience and a deeper understanding of patient vulnerability.

Working as a medical scribe afterward allowed me to observe physicians who treated my father with dignity and clarity. I learned how clear communication reduces anxiety and builds trust. In research labs, I strengthened my critical thinking, but in clinics, I learned the importance of empathy.

My journey to medicine has not been linear, but it has been intentional. Each challenge reinforced my desire to serve patients with compassion and competence. I am committed to becoming a physician who understands both the science of medicine and the lived experience of illness.