

**“If Asked to Lead a Career Session, What three aspects of nursing  
would I highlight to Promote Nursing as a Career”**

and

**“My Most Memorable Client or Experience:  
Describe a Situation in Which My Nursing Care  
Made a Difference”**

by

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## **2005 Nursing Student Scholarship Essay**

In this essay I am going to address two topics. First, if I were asked to lead a career session, what three aspects of nursing would I highlight to promote nursing as a career. Second, what is my most memorable client or experience and to describe a situation in which my nursing care made a difference. I would like to begin with the diverse professional growth opportunities that nursing as a career provides. It spans from pediatrics to geriatrics, part-time to full-time, clinics to expanded roles (i.e. Oncology); settings include home care (including hospice), extended care centers, private practice, public health, and hospitals. Nurses are legendary for having broad scopes of knowledge, which can be expanded. There are many specialized fields available to them such as Advanced Practice Nurse (APN), Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PCP), Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (GNP), a Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM), a Surgical Nurse, or even a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). The second aspect I'd like to focus on is nursing as an art and science that has the propensity of a rewarding, vibrant, and challenging career. The humanities aspect of nursing meets the needs of the patient and their families. The diversity of patients, infirmities, and treatments provide a constant need for continuing education, which better equips the nurse to serve clients. The third aspect I would embark upon is the security of the nursing profession. There is a significant demand for nurses that will not relent in the future. By 2015, 114,000 jobs for full-time RNs are expected to go unfilled nationwide.<sup>1</sup> Nursing salaries have risen as a result of the demand of need for nurses. Median annual earnings of registered nurses were \$48,090 in 2002. Many employers offer flexible work schedules, childcare, educational benefits, and bonuses. Opportunities should be

excellent, particularly for nurses with advanced education and training.<sup>2</sup> The certainty of future employment and financial security, the diverse professional growth opportunities, and the humanities aspect of improving the quality of life of others - are three foundational aspects I would promote. The second topic, my most memorable client or experience and describe a situation in which my nursing care made a difference would have to be on the day of my clinical at the hospital when my assignment was to care for a quad-paraplegic women. When assessing the needs of the patient I noticed that she was receiving blood. We had just studied about I.V. drip rates and procedures. I realized that the blood was dripping onto the filter in the drip chamber causing a risk of RBC destruction. I notified the attending nurse who corrected the situation and thanked me. Later, while preparing my client for breakfast, she informed me of her anxiety of choking. I inclined her bed and observed her closely for signs of aspiration during the meal. She shared part of her life with me. I came to serve and left with a sense of accomplishment, having learned patience from this well-seasoned patient and took with me a memorable conversation.

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<sup>1</sup> *Division of Nursing of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Labor- Bureau of Labor Statistics/web: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)