

Why did you want to become a physician?

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Becoming a physician has always been a dream of mine since I was four or five years of age. My dad is a physician himself and just watching him with his patients and seeing how much impact he can have on his patients and the world around him really drew me to the field of medicine because as a doctor, you have connection with people, like nowhere else. And so the field of medicine allows you to touch people's lives and have an everlasting impact on their lives. And so that was the main thing that drew me to the field of medicine.

What was your 4th year like while dealing with COVID-19?

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Yes, it was a great exercise for me to adapt to changes in life. It wasn't easy. It was definitely hard there was there were a lot of challenges a lot of unknowns and still are, unfortunately, but it just helps you to become stronger and to know what to ask and how to act in situations that are just unfamiliar. And so it was a good exercise for me to learn from to grow and become a stronger person more confident. But I can tell you for a fact that the school has made this transition much easier than I could ever imagined. I wasn't even expecting to stay on track. And but the school made that possible. And I'm so forever grateful for what they've done for us. And so I would say it was hard, but at the same time, I learned a lot from it.

What are you hoping for with your match?

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So I am hoping to go into pediatrics and I got a on match day I got the Yes. So I know I'm matched. So

## How are you hoping to experience match day?

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For Match Day, hoping my family will be there, my parents and my sister and her husband, but I come from a big family. So it's okay, the rest of them will be there. But they'll be joining in via zoom and everything and so, so it'll be half my family. But still, it's such a joy to know that they're going to be able to make it they're going to be with me to celebrate this very special moment. And I'm looking forward to it

## How was this years match process different from past years?

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For Match Day, it's really a process to get there. It starts in third year where I started working on my personal statement, I started reaching out to physicians and faculty members that I've worked with for letters of rec. And so I started doing that in the summer of you know, transitioning from third year to fourth year. And then now with this year, there's you know, very special circumstances of COVID, we couldn't really do away rotations. So I was planning on going on away rotations just experienced different hospitals and different places. But I wasn't able to do that, which is okay, at first I was kind of like, Oh, you know, I'm not gonna be able to know what the places are like. But, you know, thankfully, I really like it here. And so that didn't matter. And so and then, you know, you start working on your actual application. So you start filling that out. And then after that, you know, you submit everything, and then they start, you know, sending you these interview invites. And so I got interviews almost all over the, you know, South and eastern United States. That's, you know, the East Coast and South area. That's where I wanted to go or at least stay in this area. And so you start getting these invites. And of course, because of COVID we couldn't really travel to these sites and couldn't even outside of the interview, we couldn't visit the place, because it's not fair for other applicants, which is totally understandable. So everything was online. And so that was interesting to say the least. Getting a feel of the place is kind of challenging, really over, you know, zoom, but the schools and the programs did, you know great job really just offering the resources online and giving us tours of the places over zoom. So they did the best they could and I'm very appreciative of everything they've done, but it's still it was very challenging to really tell what the place is like and kind of get to see What the residents are like and everything. But it was, you know, it was a fun experience. So we definitely, I saved a lot of money on travel. And so, you know, grateful for that. And, yes, and then you know, at the end of the interview season, you just kind of sit back and relax and wait for a match day. And so, you know, I heard back on Monday that I matched. So I'm very excited. And then on Friday, I find out where.

## Anything else you would like to add?

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You know, I think everyone knows everyone that knows me knows that I love this school, I really appreciate everything they offer the medical students, you know, they're really invested in their education. I've never met educators, I've never met professors or doctors that were very passionate about teaching. And so when I interviewed when I first interviewed here, I got a feel of that, you know, and I saw that, you know, people here are really about personal connection are really about touching people's lives and leaving that impact, that everlasting impact that I looked for when I started my journey in medicine. And so I just want to thank the School of Medicine, a very appreciative everything,

they've offered us everything that they, they were always here, always here for us all for our questions or concerns. And so I'm just very thankful and looking forward to staying here.