

Since a young age, I have been determined to devote myself to a lifetime of service to others. It is in pursuit of this passion that I am applying for the Master of Public Health Program being offered by the Gillings School of Global Public Health (University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill).

I first became interested in healthcare when I volunteered at a local health clinic in my senior year of high school. The dedication of the health care workers and their impact on the lives of the patients inspired me to apply for a bachelor's degree in Health Care in college. I was fortunate to get admission into one of the top health care institutes in India and graduated with a first-class honours degree in Health Care Sciences. While in college I learned about the world-class health care facilities available in the United States and the cutting edge technologies utilized to treat patients. This is what encouraged me to apply for masters in the USA. The Gillings School of the University of North Carolina has one of the highest-ranked Health Care programs in the country. I intend to learn from the best and like to challenge myself to venture out of my comfort zone which is why I applied for this competitive program.

I joined the undergraduate program in health care with a simple vision- a vision to help people and make a difference in their lives. It was not until I started the program that I realized how widely applicable the scope of a career in health care is. I had the options of making a career in policy-making, public health sector, social work and so much more. My undergraduate program taught me the basics of disease prevention, treatment and patient rehabilitation. In my senior year in college, I also took a course in healthcare management & administration. After college, I completed a six-month internship program at a health clinic under the Delhi Central Hospital. During my internship, I specialized in the care of HIV positive orphaned children. Based on my experience at the clinic I co-authored a research paper along with the clinician in-charge at the centre Dr Avinash Verma (M.D, MCM)

Difficult as it was to pick a specialization from the varied options I had available, I finally made up my mind to pursue a career in the public health sector. I plan to specialize in policymaking and make a meaningful contribution to society. I hope to be able to develop cutting edge analyses to complex health care delivery challenges. I believe this program will help me develop, execute and expand public health policies tailored to individual scenarios and unique situations. In the long term, I plan to return to my native country with a wealth of knowledge and skills and open my own healthcare clinic for economically deprived children with underlying health conditions. If I wish to achieve my dream, I will need to gain extraordinary knowledge in the health care sector which is why I am eager to be a part of this coveted program.