

Bolen Statement of Purpose

As someone with diverse work experience in various organizations spanning several states, I am excited to pursue a graduate degree in Public Administration in Washington. Public Administration would give me the opportunity to work in government and nonprofit organizations to provide services and programs that benefit the public. I've always had a passion for helping and understanding others, fixing problems, and an intense desire to shape my community. My experience working in various roles, from HR Assistant to Emergency Dispatcher, has exposed me to the importance of efficient and effective management of public resources, policies, and programs. Additionally, it is Evergreen's core values promoting equity and fairness that aligns perfectly with my own values.

Public administration would give me the opportunity to have an active role in shaping the world around me. The Evergreen MPA values are what attracted me to the program. Learning how to "advocate powerfully on behalf of the public" and "imagine new possibilities in order to accomplish positive change in our workplace and in our communities" are both integral aspects of what makes Evergreen the perfect place for me. Seeking change and finding ways to create that change in a sustainable positive way through effective policy making and writing is a skill I hope to master by the end of this program. While I don't have direct experience in Public Administration, I do have a variety of diverse and relevant work history to help me cultivate the skills to be successful.

As an HR Assistant, I have been responsible for assisting with administrative work, file maintenance, payroll completion, and providing general clerical support. In this position, I developed the ability to multitask, prioritize duties, and work independently, making me well-suited for the demands of a public administration career. In addition to my work at Blue Heron

Bakery, I have gained valuable experience as an Office Assistant at the City of Olympia, Finance Department, where I was responsible for creating Excel spreadsheets for tax returns, data entry, and organization of information. This position taught me the importance of paying attention to detail, organization, and the ability to work under pressure while managing deadlines.

Additionally, my academic background reflects someone that will succeed. I feel my college experience with two associate degrees and a bachelor's degree, with a GPA of 3.62, has proven that I can do the coursework. Overall, I believe that these experiences have prepared me well for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, and I am excited to continue building upon them as I work toward my degree.

Overall, my diverse experience in various organizations has provided me with valuable skills, making me an excellent candidate for a graduate degree in Public Administration. I am confident that this program will equip me with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience necessary to excel in my future career as a public administrator.

Marnie Bolen