

As a single father and a disabled person, I have come to realize the importance of having a positive impact in my community. I recognize that there are many disadvantaged groups of people who need support, and I am passionate about doing my part to make sure they receive the help they need. After completing my undergraduate degree at The Evergreen State College, I spent time working in the field of social work for the Office of Children's Services in Anchorage, Alaska as well as working closely with other non-profit family advocacy and foster agencies. I realized that pursuing a Master's in Public Administration (MPA) would be the ideal opportunity for me to develop the skills I need to become an effective leader in the nonprofit sector.

My interest in working with disadvantaged populations, including special needs individuals, fueled my decision to pursue a degree that emphasizes nonprofit management. While exploring my graduate program options, I was excited to see that The Evergreen State College's MPA program offers both nonprofit management and financial management curriculum. This unique balance of knowledge became very appealing to me, not just for personal interest, but it could also be essential if I continue my interest in starting my own nonprofit organization someday.

Additionally, I loved that the program also could potentially focus on the creation of nonprofits. The opportunity to learn the ins and outs of nonprofit startup will be a vital tool for my future career goals and I'm confident that my years as a full-time single father and as a disabled person will make me an exceptional candidate with unique skills to offer in this area.

After experiencing the magnificent natural beauty of The Evergreen State College's campus, including its serene natural setting, and diverse, socially-conscious, creative community make up, my desire to continue my academic journey became even more unwavering. I am eager to take the next step in my academic journey with The Evergreen State College's MPA program by learning essential tools to directly impact diverse and disadvantaged populations in the most effective way possible.

Thank you for considering my application.

Nico Coffman