

****UIC Application Essay Sample****

****Prompt: Describe your background, interests, and goals.****

As a first-generation college student, my journey to higher education has been shaped by my family's values of hard work and perseverance. Growing up in a multicultural neighborhood in Chicago, I was exposed to a rich tapestry of traditions and ideas, which fostered my passion for learning about different cultures. My parents, immigrants who emphasized the importance of education, instilled in me a curiosity that drives my academic pursuits.

In high school, I found my passion for biology and environmental science, joining the science club where I participated in various projects, including a community garden initiative. This not only enhanced my understanding of ecological systems but also allowed me to give back to my community. I realized the importance of sustainability and the role that scientists play in addressing global challenges.

My goal is to study environmental science at UIC because of its strong focus on research and community engagement. I am particularly drawn to the Urban Ecology program, which aligns perfectly with my interests in sustainable city development. I aspire to work towards creating innovative solutions for urban environmental issues and hope to collaborate with peers and professors who share my dedication to making a difference.

Through my experiences, I have cultivated resilience and a strong sense of purpose. At UIC, I aim to not only expand my knowledge but also to inspire others in my community to pursue their educational dreams, just as my parents inspired me. I am excited about the opportunity to grow both personally and academically at UIC, contributing to a brighter future for our environment.