

When I moved to Tallahassee during the summer before my freshman year for high school due to my dad's job transfer, I was excited as well as frightened about starting over in a new city. I knew no one and I had to leave all my friends behind. The event that got me through this transition as well as changed my outlook on my future was when I enrolled in the Navy Junior ROTC Program. This program changed my life for the better.

The Junior ROTC Program taught me life skills that I will be able to use for the rest of my life. In the program I learned the value of citizenship, service, and personal responsibility. I learned very quickly that the program was not for the weak, it was very demanding and physically challenging. After being in the class for about four months, I had ranked up to a seaman apprentice position. Following my first rank up I quickly moved up in the ranks, I soon had people under me looking for my direction.

I had always wanted to work in the medical field helping people since I was very young. Now that I have experienced being part of the Navy Junior ROTC program, I now want to combine my passion for helping others in the medical profession while serving my country after graduating from college. I plan to continue in the ROTC Program while in college where I know self-discipline, hard work, leadership, passion, honor, courage, and commitment will be fostered. After graduating from College, I plan to enlist in a branch of the military. I feel confident in my future, and I know that being part of the Navy Junior ROTC program sparked a new understanding in my mind about the path I want to pursue for my career. I know the importance of serving my country and feel that I will be given the training and education to make a difference in the world.