Currently, I am a junior at Ball State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree, majoring in Pre-Medical Preparation and Health Education and Promotion with a minor in Chemistry. The Dr. Becky J. Smith Scholarship piqued my interest and I feel as though if I were selected, I would be more than honored to represent Eta Sigma Gamma in a distinctive way. Ever since I first started college, I was so intrigued and eager to begin pursuing a degree in the health field. I am so grateful that I was awarded this opportunity to apply for this scholarship.

Reviewing the criteria for this scholarship, I believe that my social, leadership, and commitment skills that I have gained throughout my college experience line up with the criteria for the Dr. Becky J. Smith scholarship. In Eta Sigma Gamma, I have served on multiple committees for events that we have held, which have taught me how to raise awareness in the local community, across campus, and have pushed me out of my comfort zone. One example is my involvement in the sexual health education event we held. I served on the committee and we crafted a posterboard with the risks of unsafe sexual behaviors. Additionally, we created small handouts that consisted of sexual statistics, and we even handed out free condoms to students at our university. As part of my experience in Eta Sigma Gamma, I have also been privileged to be selected for leadership positions, such as the Vice President of my chapter at my university. In this position, I help guide members of Eta Sigma Gamma and this consists of coordinating meetings, reaching out to members about scholarships and awards, being a mentor for members, and serving as a representative on activity committees. Even more, I have also been selected for awards, such as the Eta Sigma Gamma 2020 Virtual Health Education Advocacy Summit Scholarship, along with others, that illustrate my independence and my self-motivated dedication.

In the health education field, I want to dedicate my time and efforts to those in need and to communities in need. I believe that because of my newfound perspective on health from my time of being in college, I have truly gained a ray of insight in which will aid me in becoming a better health professional. For my professional career goals, I want to attend medical school and become a physician that specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. Although this is what I want to pursue, my major in health education and promotion has made me aware of a variety of different attitudes, biases, and implications in which I can be conscious of as I become a physician. I want to practice osteopathic medicine, which goes hand in hand with the health education field. Furthermore, I want to advocate for minority populations across the world in terms of fetal and maternal health because impacting others that are in need and different from my own will make a long-lasting impact on the birth outcomes across the globe. My double major has allowed me to get hands on experience through educating on health behaviors while also taking a number of science courses that will be beneficial to my success in medical school. My hands-on experience has prepared me to deal with endeavors in my future career that collectively correspond with advocating for others and raising awareness of health issues.

Financially, this scholarship would be helpful in aiding me to pay for my schooling. I plan on attending medical school, which is extremely expensive. I also have a brother that is younger than me, and this will put my parents at a financial detriment to have to help me pay for my schooling and my brother’s schooling as well. Additionally, I work while attending school which helps me save up money to pay for my schooling too.

Lastly, I want to express my interest in the Dr. Becky J. Smith as I feel that the criteria of this award aligns impeccably with my personal experiences and the path I see myself taking in the future of my professional career. I am more than eager to further my experience within the health field.