

# JAMES MOORE

CLASS OF 2010



## STUDENT PROFILE

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**Hometown: Winston-Salem, NC**

**Undergraduate Major: B.S Biology from ECU; MS Physiology from NC State University**

**Career Aspirations: Physician Assistant**

**Professional School: Rutgers University PA Program**

### **What's been your favorite part of the journey to apply to professional schools?**

Learning about the various programs, and what makes each one of the unique in their own way.

### **What were some of the challenges you came across when preparing to apply to schools (what was tougher than you expected)?**

My undergraduate degree was terrible so working hard after graduation to bring my GPA was extremely difficult. I ended up having to do a post bac program and get a masters from NC State University which ultimately was enough to get in into PA school.

### **How did you prepare yourself for the process of applying to schools?**

I worked tirelessly to improve my GPA by working full time as a CNA and taking courses ta my local community college. I also got my Masters in Physiology from NC State University. I also worked 60+ hours as a home health CNA. I ended accumulating over 8500 PCE hours, shadowed for 90 hours, and volunteered at the American Red Cross, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Relay for Life, and the Junior Walk for Diabetes.

### **What type of shadowing did you do?**

I shadowed and Emergency Medicine PA-C for 4 hours, an Urgent Care PA-C for 66 hours, and I did virtual shadowing with a variety of PA-C's for 20 hours.

## **Looking back, what advice would you give to students who are interested in professional schools? What do you wish you had known earlier?**

Focus on your undergraduate GPA and take it seriously please. Having a GPA under 3.0 will severely hinder the amount of schools you can apply to. Plus, it is way harder to bring your GPA up than it is to bring it down. Your undergraduate GPA follows you around forever, so make sure you take it seriously the first time around; you will save yourself a lot of time and headaches if you do.

## **What services or organizations would you recommend pre-professional students utilize?**

AAPA, NCAAPA

## **What organizations were you involved in as an undergraduate student?**

Biology Club, Tau Kappa Epsilon

## **What type of volunteering did you do?**

I volunteered as a summer camp counselor for the Muscular Dystrophy Association for two summer in a row. I also volunteered signing people up for blood drives through the American Red Cross, participated in Relay for Life, the Junior Walk for Diabetes and the Crop Walk for Hunger.

## **Did you do research? If so what was the topic?**

I interned in 2012 for 3 months in the Cancer Biology Department at Wake Forest School of Medicine. I studied under Dr. Yuh-Hwa Wang to study acute myeloid leukemia (AML) or papillary thyroid carcinoma, which causing gene translocations.

## **What was your most rewarding experience at ECU?**

I think just experiencing Pirate football on Saturdays during the fall. Nothing like going to The Boneyard!

## **Any other advice, recommendations, suggestions, or comments?**

My biggest piece of advice is to go after what YOU want and do not let anyone tell you different. People will often try to discourage you from pursuing your dreams of going to health professional school, but if you are mentally tough enough, you can overcome it all. Do what will make YOU happy, because at the end of the day, it is YOUR life!