



# DAVIS ROBERTS

CLASS OF 2023

## STUDENT PROFILE

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**Hometown: Lawrenceville, VA**

**Career Aspirations: Doctor**

**Professional School: Campbell University  
School of Osteopathic Medicine**

**Undergraduate major: Biology with a minor  
in Public Health**

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

My favorite part has been visiting different medical schools to meet with faculty and staff to find the school that I can call home. It feels so rewarding to know that I am fulfilling my dream and will be attending a place that I am excited about.

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

I knew that it was going to be a long road, so I had to mentally come to terms with that. In the end, I knew that it would all be worth it, so I just kept telling myself that.

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

The MCAT is the 800-pound elephant. It requires an enormous amount of time and dedication to achieve the results that you want, often requiring more than one attempt. The application process for medical schools was also very long. It required a lot of time, planning, and meticulous essay writing.

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

PASC (Pirate Student Success Center) is a great resource for help with your undergraduate classes. I went weekly to help with my upper-level classes. Also, use the resources that PPAC advertises and reach out to your advisors. I do not know what I would have done without mine.

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

To make the process as easy for you as possible and increase your chances of success, you need to plan your entire application process ahead of time. Start with when you want to begin professional school, then see when you would need to apply. After that, do thorough research on the schools you are interested in to see what tests and other materials they may require. If there is a big entrance exam, I would give yourself enough time to fully study for the exam, take it, and repeat that process, if necessary, prior to the time you need to apply. Finally, make sure to gather the materials you need for your applications along the way. Most schools having rolling admissions, so the sooner you get your application in the better!

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

Chancellor's Fellow of the Honors College, Founding President of the Kappa Iota Chapter of Delta Tau Delta, JDRF Greenville Community One Walk Co-Coordinator, Director of Local and State Affairs for the Student Government Association

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

I shadowed a family physician at a local practice near my home, and I shadowed an emergency medicine physician at various hospitals.

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

Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation fundraising and event planning, Mr. Beast Philanthropy

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

Actin-cofilin rods form in neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's, due to oxidative/energetic stress (e.g., ATP depletion, excitotoxicity). We investigated actin ATP binding site mutations' impact on rod formation using HeLa cells under normal and ATP-depleted conditions (Sodium Azide, 2-DG).

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

My most rewarding experience was becoming the Founding President of the Kappa Iota Chapter of Delta Tau Delta at ECU. Through this experience, I was able to gather a group of men that could make a positive impact on the lives of those around us in our Greenville community. I was also able to improve my own personal and professional qualities while creating ways for other students to join our fraternity and better themselves. In the end, I created memories that I will never forget and friends that I will have for the rest of my life.

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

They will tell you that school comes first, which is partially true, but the real truth is that YOU come first. Never hesitate to prioritize yourself as well as your friends and family. We all only get one life, so do not miss out on an opportunity. Join that organization, make those friends and connections, strive for things you are passionate about, and remember to have fun. Life is too short for anything else.