

Dear MD applicant,

Welcome to SUNY Downstate from a fourth year medical student. New York has always been my home, but for the past few years, I have settled with my fiancé here, in Brooklyn. Prospect-Lefferts Gardens is a warm and dynamic neighborhood with many young professionals and families. I am part of the community that nourishes the hospital, and Downstate's patients are my neighbors. The community is vibrant and friendly, and it is wonderful to live in the area.

When it came time to apply to medical school, I wanted to learn in an environment where I would feel supported. The faculty at SUNY Downstate is interactive with our student body and supportive of our learning efforts. My classmates have been wonderful as well, helping with study guides, lending textbooks, and cheering me on. When you reach the third and four years of medical school, the clinical years, the opportunities to meet many career shaping physicians abound. As I have worked towards becoming a neurologist, the support of faculty and residents in the Neurology Department has been indispensable. Overall, the clinical training experience is excellent. The hands-on experiences students receive at UHB and KCHC are second to none.

Other fantastic experiences have included fully funded research opportunities and plentiful community outreach. As a student, the combination of exceptional faculty, a warm student body, a diverse neighborhood, and an academic environment has enabled me to begin to pursue my professional interests and shape my career. I am glad to be part of the MD class of 2017 at SUNY Downstate and hope you will join us in the months ahead.

Bryanna