

From sophomore year of high school to senior year of college, I gave dedication and commitment working for Chick-Fil-A as a busser, dishwasher, and server for six years. Working for this particular company really taught me what the true meaning of service really is, and helped me develop a genuine love and passion for hospitality. While in college, hospitality convinced me to change my major from Accounting to Hospitality Administration. During my senior year of college, I served as an Administrative Assistant in the department of Georgia State University's Cecil B. Day School of Hospitality Administration office for one year. I was able to act as a liaison, and greeter between students, and also provide general administrative support for students, faculty, and staff. As a liaison to college students, I thought this position was the perfect way to enrich college students to enjoy learning and growing in the hospitality industry.

Upon graduation, I wanted to gain ample knowledge in the hospitality industry. That became true once I was accepted into Walt Disney World's Disney College Program. I accepted a position as a Front Desk Agent at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. After working for the Walt Disney Company, opportunities became endless. I created so many relationships with so many people from all over the world. I immensely learned and grew so much within myself not only professionally, but personally as well. It also led me to a position at the Ritz Carlton Atlanta hotel as a Lobby Concierge, which is my current employer. This position has to be, by far, the most difficult job I have had, but the most rewarding. The Ritz Carlton Company is the epitome of first-class service, leadership, and teamwork, and I could not be more grateful to work for such an amazing company. Being a part of this brand has convinced me to invest in the most relevant education possible in order to enhance my leadership development in the hospitality industry.

Investing more in my education will also be a great way to learn the modern standards and practice of the management industry in hospitality. I am currently in the process of attending graduate school and pursuing my Masters' Degree in Hospitality and Tourism Management at University of Central Florida. Afterwards, I would like to pursue a career in either airline or cruise line management for approximately three years. Afterwards, I would love to further my education by pursuing my Ph.D. in Hospitality Management. My long term goal is to have my very own hospitality school at an amazing university, and become either its founder or director. Looking at college students going after what I did to successfully thrive in the hospitality industry would be the most incredible thing to encounter. My dream has always been to combine student affairs and hospitality into one career, and I believe that it is a goal that I am able to achieve by working hard, gaining more knowledge about the industry, planning strategically, and exemplifying persistence.