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To the University of West Florida Graduate School Admissions,  
I am thrilled to be applying to the Advanced Standing Master of Social Work-Online Program. For quite a few semesters I have been hearing about this program through my university courses and have been encouraged by multiple professors. My career goals are to advocate and support people who are experiencing crisis and to help them find pillars and resources within their communities that they can turn to. This opportunity will allow me to gain more experience that can help me serve the community to the best of my abilities. I believe that my communication and leadership skills, as well as my involvement already working with people in crisis will make me an excellent candidate for this program.

During my time as an undergraduate, I have been involved with the University of West Florida's Kugelman Honors Program working as a Peer Mentor to the upcoming Honors student cohort. With the Kugelman Honors Program, I have also participated in a seminar class with thirteen other students to compose a project in the form of a mobile museum exhibit. This exhibit was the first of its kind for the program and it excelled astronomically. With this seminar class, I was able to work with other Honors students of all different majors and experiences as well as different professors across an array of disciplines. Communication was a major component as all thirteen students had to participate in varying levels to ensure that the project ended well. There was a bit of complication with the project as it was the first of its kind and I was able to take charge and ensure that the project was fulfilled to its best ability. I made sure that assignments were given out and done correctly and in a timely manner and then constructed to fit the project as a whole.

Currently, I am working at Summit Health Services with autistic children as a Registered Behavioral Technician using Applied Behavioral Analysis. With an in-home approach to help develop interpersonal and communication skills as well as social interaction and other essential everyday skills. In the Bachelor's of Social Work program I also have had the pleasure of interning at the State Attorney's Office as a Victim Advocate. Here I work within the criminal court system with victims of all types of crime and help them navigate the judicial system as their case progresses through their pursuit of justice. This includes support in the courtroom and with resources with the community. In the past I have also worked at the Lakeview Center Acute Care Services Division with clients who are currently in the rehabilitation process and mental health crises. With this experience as a Behavioral Technician, I am able to gain experience in the realm of social work. Also, I am currently working on a research project with the Kugelman Honors Program and a mentor in the Department of Social Work to evaluate the impact of social media on younger generations in finding their self-identity.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my application for this graduate school. I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding the scheduling of an interview. I have attached my resume and list of references for your consideration as well.

Kind regards,

*Emma Dukes*