

Monday, December 19, 2016

Dear Mrs. Dunn,

I'm writing this letter in support of the proposed medical school in Fresno, as a practicing physician, a former medical student, and a member of the community.

I have worked in Fresno for three years. My father worked in Fresno for twenty years. I can attest to the dearth of physicians serving the central valley. We are badly in need of doctors, especially primary care providers, to meet the demands of our population. Ideally we would have home grown doctors who pursue education and incorporate into our communities and grow roots in the region. Acceptance to medical school is becoming increasingly impossible to attain; and in California the number of available positions pales in comparison to the number of applicants. Thus, we export some of our best and brightest college graduates and, more often than not, lose them to their new found cities and communities. A local medical school would serve as both an oasis in an otherwise sparse academic valley, and as a cornerstone in the progression of high school to university to medical school to residency and finally to provider -- the missing link in the chain.

Leading the creation of a medical school is a Herculean feat, I admit. But I look to the success of the pharmacy school and I am assured that you and your team are able to meet such a challenge. I applaud your dedication to education and to the community, and I offer my support and assistance in any way possible.

Sincerely,  
Sohrab Sohrabi