

To: Governor Nikki Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Nikki Haley:

My name is Christina Arnold and I am aspiring to be a nurse. I began this journey in 2006 taking the required college courses that I were needed to get into the nursing program. I managed to get into the nursing program at the Technical College of the Low Country (TCL), unfortunately, I was not as prepared as I thought. During the program I became a newly single mom, I was trying to hold down a full time job at Beaufort Memorial Hospital, and my support system was not in place. So I decided to take a break from school to get everything lined up and prepared so that when I did return to college would be able to complete the program without any distractions. Finally in 2012 I enrolled back into TCL. I knew that because I was out of school so long that I would have to retake a lot of my prerequisites over again, and if that was what I had to do to accomplish my goal of becoming a nurse I was ready to retake every class needed. After a year at TCL I transferred to Armstrong University in Savannah, Georgia. I attended classes there for a year, but still had a handful of classes that I needed to retake, so to cut down on the drive time, I transferred back to TCL to finish the remainder of the classes I needed to retake. When I transferred back to TCL I inquired about reapplying to the nursing program. During my meeting with, Mrs. O'sullivan, one of the nursing advisors at TCL, I was told that none of the classes I had taken at Armstrong would be able to be transferred, and if I wanted them to count towards the prerequisites for the nursing program at TCL that I would need to take them there at TCL. I was told that since they were not "TCL classes" that they would not count. I continued take classes trying to bring up my GPA in hopes of trying to get into another nursing program, As of today I have attempted to get into four different nursing programs, Technical College of the Low Country, Armstrong Atlantic State University and Trident Technical College. However, I have not had any success. I was told by two colleges that because I failed a nursing course it barred me completely from applying to their nursing program, at another college my GPA was not up to their standards and at TCL I was told that all the courses I took at Armstrong would need to be retaken at TCL, so I could get the credit for those classes.

I know the odds are stacked against me. I am single mom of three girls. I receive food stamps as well as Section 8 (housing assistance). This is not the life I want for me or my girls. I appreciate the assistance I am receiving, but I do not want to live on assistance forever. I know I can do this. I know I can complete the nursing program. I have been a Certified Nursing Assistant at Beaufort Memorial Hospital for the past 7 years. I have the confidence of many of the nurses and doctors on my floor that I have what it takes to become an awesome nurse. I have an amazing support system that is backing me up 100%. I just need a chance. I just need someone to give me the opportunity to make my dreams a reality and give me and my girls a better life. That is why I am writing you.

I know that this is a long shot, but I have am reaching out to everyone I possibly can to achieve my goal and make a better life for me and my girls. Thank you for your time. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you ,

Christina Arnold

Christina Arnold

(843)-263-1823

325 Ambrose Run Apt 514

Beaufort, S.C. 29906

munchkinkr@gmail.com