Alvernia University
MSN Program
Nursing Leadership and Healthcare Administration Track
Entrance Essay

“Thoughts on Nursing Leadership in Today’s Healthcare Environment and My Potential Contribution”

Directions:
- Two pages not including reference page
- Double spaced, 12 point font
- 1-2 references cited in APA format
- Discuss what leadership characteristics and skills are essential for nurses to develop in order to function effectively in a complex healthcare environment. Relate your ideas to current trends in healthcare and the nursing profession. Next, assess your perception of your own leadership skills. Lastly, explain how you see yourself contributing to the nursing profession in terms of the nursing leadership role you expect to fill, in light of your particular strengths and talents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
<th>Applicant points</th>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Scoring Considerations</th>
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</table>
| 20             |                  | 1. Knowledge of trends in the profession | - Is content accurate and current?  
- Are trends well described?  
- Are the sources scholarly?  
- Does content knowledge reflect having achieved a BSN? |
| 20             |                  | 2. Depth of thinking about issues | - Are personal thoughts developed well or are they superficial clichés?  
- Does the student offer any original or creative ideas? |
| 20             |                  | 3. Match of self to the nurse leader role | - Does student make a case for a “good fit” of personal characteristics with nursing leadership?  
- Does student give specific examples or vague generalities? |
| 20             |                  | 4. Coherency and organization | - Can one follow the student's train of thought?  
- Is there logical organization?  
- Are there transitions from one thought to the next? |
| 20             |                  | 5. Professional writing | - Are there grammar and/or spelling errors?  
- Is APA format correct? |
| 100            | Total            |         |                         |