**Question prompt shown on screen**

Why do you want to be a pharmacist?

**Candidate response**

Why do I want to be a pharmacist? You know what, I um, I’ve always wanted to be a pharmacist, actually. You know, what’s cool to me about being a pharmacist is the fact that they’re an integral part of the health care system. You know, you’re helping people prevent new conditions or helping treat pre-existing conditions. You know, again, an integral part of the health care system. I uh, used to read a bunch of books on biology growing up, and what was always super fascinating to me was the fact that, you know, drugs can really have a cool effect on the human body and alter the human body. Um, volunteering at the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, I really learned about the integral role that drugs play in improving people’s lives. I also used to volunteer at the Arthritis Society and leading up to the annual march to fight arthritis, you know, I got the chance to visit local high schools and give talks specifically on juvenile arthritis. And you know, through those experiences I really learned a lot about how to clearly communicate, uh, medical information. Anyway, um, for all those reasons I decided, you know what, I’m going to enter science here at the University of Waterloo. And um, I mused with the idea of going into med school like everyone else does, right, but then I thought, you know, I like change, I like new challenges. You know, for instance, new medications or new diseases being treated by these medications. Stuff that a pharmacist deals with. Um, back in high school I used to run a rare disease publication actually, for the science foundation. And when I was doing that I had to read about new diseases and stay on top of all the new publications and stuff, and communicate that to my peers. So again, learned a lot and have a lot of experience with communicating medical information. Uh, recently, actually, I also got the chance to land a part time job at a pharmacy. And in the past seven months of working there, I realized that I know that this is what I want to do. I learned about the demand for the position, I learned about the many different potential career paths, and the flexibility of being a pharmacist is so cool. Um, but you know what, I’d also love to get involved in the research and innovation aspect, and because of that actually I was an RA this past term for a chemistry prof, and that went pretty well. So I feel like my successes in these roles right now, um, would be really beneficial to my success in the customer service aspect as well as the medical research aspect of being a pharmacist, so yeah.