## Madison Mullen

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## Why I Chose the University of Hartford

Choosing to go to attend a college or university is the first "real-life" decision a person can make. Not only is it important for future success, but choosing the right school is also important. As an eighteen-year-old just about to graduate from high school, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life, nor did I have any career plans. I decided to start off at Manchester Community College, where I completed my general education credits and earned my Associate's Degree in General Studies in May 2016.

While deciding where I wanted to transfer after Manchester Community College, schools like the University of Connecticut did not cross my mind. Though UConn is a great school Connecticut has to offer, the size of the school terrified me. I did not want to even tour that school in fear that I would be recognized as an ID number for my last two years of college. I attended small, private schools my entire life up until college, and I appreciated the close teacher-student relationship. I did tour Eastern Connecticut State University, and though another great school, I did not see myself succeeding at that institution. The Dean of Eastern spoke to our tour, and even he did not seem enthusiastic about being there.

During every step of the stressful college search process, I am so thankful that I chose to attend the University of Hartford. Not only do they offer one of the best business schools in Connecticut, but they also granted me the generous President-to-President Scholarship of \$18,000 which made financing my last two years of college much easier on both my parents and me. The ease of transferring took off a lot of stress, as well. I have only been at this University for one full semester and have had excellent professors who genuinely care about me. The quality of the courses I have taken were challenging, but effective. The Barney School of Business has pushed me to be the best student I can be; and as a result, I am now working hard towards earning my Bachelors of Science in Business Administration for Accounting, am an honors program student and have been selected to join the National Honors Society of Leadership and Success. I also have made the Dean's List for the Fall 2016.

Without the University of Hartford, I feel that I would not have been as successful in academics as I am today. These professors have seen my potential and encourage me to take on more challenges, because they know I am capable of the work. The recognition for my academic success reminds me of all the hard work I am putting into school. The quality of the coursework, awesome professors, friendly staff and quality of transfer were all key factors in why I decided to go here, and I am very proud to be a UHart Hawk. If I did not choose to attend the University of Hartford, I would not be the successful honors program student this University motivates me to be.