**[Letter of Intent](https://www.shemmassianconsulting.com/blog/how-to-write-medical-school-letter-of-intent-or-letter-of-interest)**

In applying for admittance to the Master of Arts in Counseling at the Adler School of Professional Psychology I am completing a professional career trajectory that began almost two decades ago in Lebanon. I believe that my demonstrated commitment to humanitarian causes and therapeutic care, leadership skills, and personal qualities of patience and empathy make me an excellent candidate for this program.

I acknowledge that my shift of professional focus from the medical to the psychological fields may appear unusual. However, one must understand the context in which my career path was shaped. Lebanon, and the Middle East in general, have tragically experienced more than their share of civil disturbance, war, and human suffering over their recent history. As long as I can remember, I have desired to help the sick and injured, and alleviate their suffering. In the context of Lebanon, the only professional opportunity to express this personal orientation was in the field of medicine. For this reason, I successfully pursued my medical degree leading to years of experience in hospital and clinical environments.

However, in the course of my career as a medical clinician I began to develop an awareness of how much of the human suffering I saw around me was psychological rather than physiological in origin. In a society torn apart by generations of war and civil strife, the wounds and scars that one cannot see are just as important, and often more important, than those that one can see.

This awareness crystallized upon my arrival in the West, and in my work as a volunteer with social service organizations caring for mentally and physically abused women and children. Although life in the United States may seem far removed from that in the Middle East, I have discovered - to my surprise - how many members of the American population live with psychological scars and mental illness as integral components of their lives. Given how my professional career has been shaped by my personal commitment to alleviating the suffering of other human beings, my shift in interests from medicine to psychology can therefore be seen as the logical fulfillment of a long career trajectory.

It is for this reason that I am applying to the Masters Program at the Adler School of Professional Psychology. I believe that both my professional and life experiences render me a very suitable "fit" with your School. Furthermore I intend, upon completion of the M.A. Program, to go on to pursue the Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D) degree at the Adler School. The knowledge and experience that I would acquire in the course of my studies at the Adler School will give me the tools and opportunities to fulfill my career goals of working on alleviating adult mental health problems through counseling. In the process, I will be able to give back to communities in the United States something of what this generous and diverse land has given to my family and me. Finally, as the fulfillment of a personal "dream," becoming a certified professional in psychological counseling will allow me to address the inner sufferings of my fellow human beings as I once alleviated physical sufferings.

Thank you for your time and consideration.