



## **Personal Statements**

Your personal statement, also called “application essay” or “statement of purpose”, is an opportunity to explain why you are an ideal candidate. Use your personal statement to create a picture of how your personal and academic experiences have shaped who you are and your professional goals.

### **Ways to Prepare**

- Read the prompt(s) you are required to answer
- Research the program
- Consider 2-3 meaningful experiences to support your goal

### **The Writing Process**

- Develop a plan for what to say, including topics to cover
- Write and read your draft and ask yourself if you covered all of the desired topics
- Revise and obtain feedback from peers, the Writing Center, trusted colleagues, and professionals in the field (professors, advisors, etc.)

### **Effective Statements Answer**

- Who you are
- What you would like to study and why
- What contribution or impact you would make and why
- How the program you are applying to will help you reach your goal