Writing a successful
PERSONAL STATEMENT

Writing your personal statement can seem intimidating. Not only is choosing and applying to a graduate program a major life decision, but summing up your goals, ambitions, and experiences in only 1-2 pages can leave you stumped with where to begin. We want to help you get your gears turning, so you can write a successful personal statement without the stress!

Here is a brief overview of what to include:

1 — BACKGROUND DETAILS

Academics, projects, internships, leadership, and extracurricular activities. Give emphasis to skills that apply to the program of interest.

2 — WHY THIS PROGRAM

Your interest in this degree program: why will this advance your career? Refer to classes of interest, faculty, etc.

3 — WHY WPI?

Specifically mention what about this school and program stands out to you.

4 — CAREER GOALS

Have a clear direction. How will you utilize this degree in shaping your future career? What opportunities will an advanced degree afford you?

5 — WHO ARE YOU

Showcase your best self. Personal and professional experience, interests and inspiration. Provide an anecdote from your life that has shaped your interest in the industry in a positive and professional way.

6 — YOUR SKILLS

What you have acquired through your professional & educational background. Discuss how you were able to translate coursework, projects & academic activities as actionable skills in your professional life.

7 — LONG TERM GOALS

What types of specific research, projects, and professional experiences do you see yourself committing to long-term? What are your long-term goals?

8 — CLOSING STATEMENT

Wrap up with a solid foundation by referencing program specific details that intrigue you, faculty research or publications, and provide insight that you have researched the program to showcase your commitment and interest.

This is a high-level overview of what it takes to write a successful personal statement, meant as a tool to help you initiate the brainstorming process. For a more detailed set of guidelines, visit: **bit.ly/wpi-apply-tips**

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