

Guidance for Personal Statement Letters

*Your Personal Statement is your opportunity to tell us your story. We understand that every student's circumstances are different, so there is no "right" way to write your letter. **Please share only the information you are comfortable disclosing.***

*The questions below are intended **only as a guide** to help you think about the information you may wish to include. **You do not need to answer every question.** Instead, use the prompts that are relevant to your situation to help explain your educational goals, financial circumstances, and why you are seeking financial assistance.*

A detailed letter helps the committee better understand your circumstances and fairly assess your application.

Personal and Educational Background

1. Briefly introduce yourself, including your program of study, institution, and current year/semester.
2. Describe your current academic or career goals and what you hope to achieve through your education.
3. Explain any significant personal, family, or educational circumstances that have affected your studies.

Current Financial Situation

1. Describe your current financial situation and any challenges you are experiencing or unexpected circumstances you face.
2. Indicate whether you are employed, unemployed, working part-time/full-time.
3. List any other sources of financial support you receive (family assistance, scholarships, government aid, loans, etc.).
4. List your current housing situation – whether you live by yourself, with roommates/a partner or with family.
5. If there is a gap between your income and monthly expenses please indicate that to demonstrate the extent of your financial need.

Conclusion

6. Why you believe you should be considered for this funding opportunity.
7. What receiving this funding would mean for your education and future.
8. Any additional information you believe would help the review committee better understand your circumstances.