

WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

Here are some topics you may want to include in your personal statement. Try to select no more than 3-4 topics. Keep the statement to no more than 3 pages double spaced 12 pt font.

1. Reasons for select the area of study that you wish to focus on

- List/explain the factors that attracted you to this specialty.
- Why do you feel well-suited for this specialty?
- Discuss nature of work
- Desire to make contribution to business

2. Relevant Experience

- Discuss any paid or voluntary work experience that is relevant to this specialty (i.e., research)
- Research accomplishments, publications, and/or awards

3. Skills/attributes you possess that are valued by the specialty

- Interpersonal
- Intellectual
- Perceptual, motor

4. Personal Goals

- Long-range career plan
- Academic, private, etc.
- Philanthropy

5. What are you looking for in a residency program?

- What do you want?
- What do you have to offer?
- What contributions can you make to the specialty and/or residency program?
- Discuss aspects you feel are important in a training program.

6. "Human interest" information

- Family
- Regional/cultural background
- Interest outside of medicine
- Extra-curricular activities (not related to medicine), hobbies, unusual travel experience, etc.
- Any special qualities