

AMCAS 2024

<https://students-residents.aamc.org/how-apply-medical-school-amcas/section-8-amcas-application-essays>

[AMCAS Applicant guide](#) – pdf (p 57)

5300 characters

Use the Personal Comments essay as an opportunity to distinguish yourself from other applicants. Here are some questions you may want to consider while writing your essay:

- Why have you selected the field of medicine?
- What motivates you to learn more about medicine?
- What do you want medical schools to know that has not been disclosed in other sections of the application?

In addition, you may wish to include information such as:

- Unique hardships, challenges, and obstacles that may have influenced your educational pursuits.
- Comments on significant fluctuations in your academic record not explained elsewhere in your application.

Experience Descriptions (pp 47-48)

Most Meaningful Experiences (p 48)

You may identify up to three (3) experiences that you consider to be the most meaningful. This designation will allow you an additional 1,325 characters to explain why this experience was particularly meaningful to you. When writing your response, you might want to consider:

- The transformative nature of the experience.
- The impact you made while engaging in the activity.
- The personal growth you experienced as a result of your participation.

AACOMAS 2024

https://help.liaisonedu.com/AACOMAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_AACOMAS_Application/Supporting_Information/5_Personal_Statement

5300 characters including spaces

In the space provided, write a brief statement expressing your motivation or desire to become a DO. Keep your statement general as the same essay will be sent to all schools you will apply to. Even if you only plan to apply to one program, do NOT make your essays school specific as you may decide to apply to additional programs at a later date, and once you submit your application your essay can NOT be edited or changed.

Don't forget to include the reasons that you want to study osteopathic medicine in your personal statement.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

Please describe how COVID-19 has impacted your pathway to medical school. Items to consider incorporating into your response may include but are not limited to:

- Academic: Were you able to interact with your professors? Did you have to leave an academic program stateside or abroad? Did your school require you to move to pass/fail grading systems? Did your MCAT exam get cancelled, delayed? Other academic barriers?
- Professional: Did you hold a job? Did you have to go out and seek new job opportunities? Did you lose a job? Other financial or professional barriers that you faced?
- Personal: Did you have to move out of a house or dorm? Did you have to cancel travel plans? Did you modify your planned experiences related to healthcare or volunteer opportunities? Did you seek out volunteer opportunities that arose from the crisis? Did you assist any family or community members that were affected?

PTCAS 2024

[https://help.liaisonedu.com/PTCAS Applicant Help Center/Filling Out Your PTCAS Application/Supporting Information/06 Essay](https://help.liaisonedu.com/PTCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_PTCAS_Application/Supporting_Information/06_Essay)

4500 characters including spaces

2024 Question: Every person has a background, personal identity, interest, or talent which they feel their application would be incomplete without mentioning. Describe one of these individual traits that makes you unique and explain how it will help make you a successful Physical Therapist?

In addition to updating the personal essay prompt, clarifying instructional text will be added to the top of the essay page within the application, reading:

"DPT program faculty and admissions committees are looking for you to use this essay to persuade the reader that the physical therapy profession is the right fit for you. Please keep this in mind as you complete your personal essay."

DPT programs may require additional school-specific essays.

Does your academic record accurately reflect your capabilities? If no, describe why it does not. Present any information that may assist the admissions committee in interpreting and evaluating your academic history or credentials. (1000 characters)

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

If you feel as though your pathway to a physical therapist education program was educationally, personally, or professionally impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic, please describe for your programs the impact you experienced. Some impacts you may want to consider when responding include:

- **Educational:** Did your institution move to requiring online or distance coursework? Were you able to effectively interact with your program faculty and professional staff and receive the support needed to succeed? Were you required to move to a Pass/Fail grading system? Did your GRE testing date get canceled or delayed?
- **Personal:** Did you unexpectedly have to change your living situation? Did you need to care for yourself or a loved one who was directly impacted? Did you seek out new volunteer opportunities that arose from the crisis?
- **Professional:** Did you have a change in employment status, a change in available shadowing experiences, or other professional or financial changes?

OTCAS 2023

https://help.liaisonedu.com/OTCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_OTCAS_Application/Supporting_Information/06_Documents

No character limit indicated. Upload a document.

Use your own words to create a personal essay that responds to the question below. Upload your personal essay using the upload tool labeled 'Personal Statement.'

Your Personal Statement should address why you selected OT as a career and how an Occupational Therapy degree relates to your immediate and long-term professional goals. Describe how your personal, educational, and professional background will help you achieve your goals. The personal essay is an important part of your application for admission and provides you with an opportunity for you to clearly and effectively express your ideas.

Do NOT personalize your statement for a particular degree institution. You can NOT make any edits to your Personal Statement after you have e-submitted your completed application to OTCAS.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

If you feel as though your pathway to an occupational therapy program has been educationally, personally, or professionally impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic, please describe the impact you experienced.

Potential impacts may include:

- Educational: Interruption to coursework, support from faculty/staff, courses converted to pass/fail, GRE testing cancellation, etc.
- Personal: Interruption to living situation, financial hardship, family, etc.
- Professional: Interruption to shadowing/volunteering experiences, employment, certification, etc.

AADSAS 2024

http://www.adea.org/dental_education_pathways/aadsas/Applicants/Pages/PersonalStatement.aspx

4,500 characters including spaces

The personal statement explains who you are and, most importantly, why the applicant wants to pursue a dental career.

The **ADEAAADSAS application** requires a personal essay on why you wish to pursue a dental education.

Where do you start? Admission committees are looking for individuals who are motivated, academically prepared, articulate, socially conscious, and knowledgeable about the profession. What can you tell admissions committees about yourself that will make you stand out?

Although there is no set of rules mandating what a strong personal statement should include, here are a few tips to help you successfully craft a winning personal statement:

- Explain a defining moment that helped steer you toward a career in dentistry. Consider using that moment as the focal point of your essay.
- Be colorful, positive, imaginative, and personal when discussing why you're a good candidate for dental school. Ask yourself—in a pile of 100 applications, would I enjoy reading my statement? Be sure to convey your passion for dentistry in your statement.
- Be yourself. Don't use jargon, clichés or big phrases that you would not use in daily conversation. Remember, dental schools want to know about the real you.
- Be original and thoughtful: Discuss how you would contribute to the profession and patient care, all of which will help you stand out from other applicants.
- Tell your story—make sure the essay is your story, not someone else's.
- Recruit a friend. Ask a friend, relative or faculty advisor to read your essay and provide constructive criticism. Ask them to think about whether the essay is a good representation of your character, and what they know of your ideals and aspirations.
- Give yourself time to organize your thoughts, write well and edit as necessary. And don't forget to proofread, proofread, proofread!

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

COVID-19 has broadly impacted the world. If you want, you can use this space to describe how COVID-19 has impacted your preparation for the application to dental school up to this point. Each program will determine how a response to this question will be considered as part of the admissions process. You might consider these questions as you formulate your response:

- Academic: Did your school move to offering only online coursework? Did you have to leave an academic program? Were the grades for your coursework, especially prerequisites, affected? Was your Dental Admission Test (DAT) exam cancelled or delayed? Did you lose the ability to interact with professors or advisors?

Continued on back

- Professional: Was your job, paid or volunteer, affected? Did you lose a job or seek new opportunities? Was your shadowing experience shortened or modified? Were your financial responsibilities shifted or increased?
- Personal: Did you have to move out of a house or dorm? Were you impacted by travel out of the country? Did you seek out volunteer opportunities that arose from the crisis? Did you help family members who were affected?

OptomCAS 2023

https://help.liaisonedu.com/OptomCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_OptomCAS_Application/Program_Materials/OptomCAS_Program_Materials

4500 characters

OptomCAS essay(s) are located under "Program Materials", thus the questions and your responses can be customized for each Optometry Program. Most Optometry schools include this as their main essay question:

Please describe what inspires your decision for becoming an optometrist, including your preparation for training in this profession, your aptitude and motivation, the basis for your interest in optometry, and your future career goals.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces for each question

1. Did your institution move to offering only an online curriculum during the COVID-19 crisis? If yes, what classes/labs were affected? Please include what semesters.
2. Did you have an opportunity to receive a letter grade for any of your courses taken during the COVID-19 crisis? If yes, please include courses.
3. How has the COVID-19 crisis impacted your pathway to optometry school through your academic, professional and personal life? How have you responded to these changes?

PharmCAS 2023

<https://www.pharmcas.org/application-instructions>

[PharmCAS Application Instructions for 2023 Enrollment](#) (p 66)

4500 characters including spaces

Your Personal Essay should address:

- Why you selected pharmacy as a career.
- How the Doctor of Pharmacy degree relates to your immediate and long-term professional goals.
- Describe how your personal, educational, and professional background will help you achieve your goals.

Do not personalize your essay for a particular pharmacy degree institution. You cannot make any edits to your Personal Essay after you have e-submitted your completed application to PharmCAS.

Please be aware that your admission essay will undergo a textual similarity review with iThenticate/Turnitin for Admissions for the detection of plagiarism and other potential violations of the applicant code of conduct.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

Use this section to describe how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your pathway to becoming a pharmacist. The prompts listed in the application can help you get started, but you do not need to limit your responses to only these considerations.

- Indicate if your school moved to offering only online curriculum during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Indicate if you had an opportunity to receive a letter grade for any of your courses taken during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Describe how COVID-19 has impacted your pathway to pharmacy school.
 - Academic: Were you able to interact with your professors? Did you have to leave an academic program stateside or abroad? Did your school require you to move to Pass/Fail systems? Did your original PCAT exam get cancelled, delayed? Other academic barriers?
 - Professional: Did you hold a job? Did you have to go out and seek new job opportunities? Did you lose a job? Other financial or professional barriers that you faced?
 - Personal: Did you have to move out of a house or dorm? Did you have to cancel travel plans? Did you modify your planned experiences related to healthcare or volunteer opportunities? Did you seek out volunteer opportunities that arose from the crisis? Did you help family members that were affected?

CASPA 2023

https://help.liaisonedu.com/CASPA_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_CASPA_Application/3_CASPA_Supporting_Information/5_Essay

5000 characters including spaces

In your own words, write a brief statement expressing your motivation or desire to become a physician assistant.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

Please describe how COVID-19 has impacted your pathway to becoming a Physician Assistant. The questions below will help you get started, but do not limit your responses to only these considerations.

- Academic: Did your school move to an online-only curriculum? Were you able to interact with your professors? Did you have to leave an academic program stateside or abroad? Did your school require you to move to the Pass/Fail grading system? Did your original GRE exam get canceled or delayed? Were there Other academic barriers?
- Professional: Did you hold a job? Did you have to go out and seek new job opportunities? Did you lose a job? Were there other financial or professional barriers that you faced?
- Personal: Did you have to move out of a house or dorm? Did you have to cancel travel plans? Did you modify your planned experiences related to healthcare or volunteer opportunities? Did you seek out volunteer opportunities that arose from the crisis?

VMCAS 2024

https://help.liasonedu.com/VMCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_VMCAS_Application/VMCAS_Supporting_Information/01_Essay

<https://www.aavmc.org/becoming-a-veterinarian/how-to-apply/>

Your personal statement is a one-page essay (not to exceed 3,000 characters) that gives veterinary admissions committees a clear picture of who you are and, most importantly, why you want to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

Although there is no set of rules mandating what a strong personal statement should include, here are a few tips to help you successfully craft an effective personal statement:

- Explain a defining moment that helped steer you toward a career in veterinary medicine. Consider using that moment as the focal point of your essay.
- Be original and thoughtful: Discuss how you would contribute to the profession and patient care, all of which will help you stand out from other applicants.
- As you are telling us why you want to pursue a career in veterinary medicine, explain why you are good candidate for veterinary school. Ask yourself—in a pile of 100 applications, would I enjoy reading my statement? Be sure to convey your passion for veterinary medicine in your statement.

VMCAS has added a new release statement to their application to prevent the use of AI for the statement of purpose.

“I certify that the content of my statement of purpose (essay) is original and composed by me in its entirety. I certify that I have not had assistance from other individuals beyond providing feedback on my drafts, and that I have not used an artificial intelligence (AI) essay generator (e.g. ChatGPT) or other online sources for the content.”

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

3000 characters including spaces

Opportunity in Explanation Statement:

The explanation statement can be used to record information that could not be listed anywhere else within the web application, such as missing parental information, and disciplinary action(s) which require detailed explanation. **This section can also be used to provide the admissions committee(s) additional information that you consider vital to your application (i.e. COVID-19 impact).** Your explanation statement should be clearly and succinctly written – 3000 characters (including spaces) have been allotted for this purpose. Examples of pertinent information might include explanations about interruptions in your studies or experiences, unique circumstances you have faced, or reasons for decisions you have made.

AACPM-AS (Podiatry) 2023

https://help.liaisonedu.com/AACPMAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_AACPMAS_Application/AACPMAS_Supporting_Information/09_Essay

4500 characters

In the text box state why you are interested in becoming a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine. Provide information about your development for a career in Podiatric Medicine. Please be aware, your response here will be sent to ALL schools you have designated on your application, so you should not tailor this essay to any one particular school.

COVID-19 Impact Statement:

2500 characters including spaces

COVID-19 has broadly impacted the world in 2020. If you choose, use this space to describe how COVID-19 has impacted your pathway to the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine through your academic, personal or professional life. How have you responded to these changes?

SOPHAS 2023

https://help.liaisonedu.com/SOPHAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_SOPHAS_Application/SOPHAS_Program_Materials/SOPHAS_Program_Materials

SOPHAS essay(s) are located under "Program Materials" on Documents tab and/or Questions tab, thus the questions and your responses can be customized for each Public Health program.

When submitting your Statement of Purpose and Objectives, it should be unique to each degree program to which you are going to apply. Your statement is intended to give you the opportunity to submit a tailored narrative which will describe your education, experience and professional career objectives. Your personal statement should describe your:

- Reasons for interest in public health
- Reasons for interest in program of study and/or concentration
- Reasons for interest in the school or program
- Career goals
- If you are applying to a doctoral program, your proposed research topics.
- Be sure to check with the school or program to which you will be applying to determine if there are any additional questions you should answer in your statement.

HAMPCAS (Health Administration, Management & Policy) 2023

<https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/AUPHA/3f8c0fae-d170-4d04-b5e8-aab04754f3f9/UploadedFiles/HAMPCAS%20Applicant%20User%20Guide.pdf> (p 15)

https://help.liaisonedu.com/HAMPCAS_Applicant_Help_Center

4500 maximum characters

An Essay Statement of Purpose is intended to give you the opportunity to submit a narrative to each school to which you are applying describing your past education, experience and current professional career objectives.

You are encouraged to review the institution info card provided/program pages to answer the specific essay questions/statements for the programs you are applying to. You may create a general statement and or tailor your essays for specific schools.

DICAS (Dietetics) 2023

https://portal.dicas.org/applicants2019_spring/instruction/ins_essays.htm

8000 characters or 1000 words or less

You have two options. You may create one generic statement, suitable for sending to all programs, or you may create multiple tailored statements, which personally address the individual program to which it will be sent.

Address the following items in your personal statement.

- Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
- Discuss experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career.
- What are your short-term and long-term goals?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?
- What other information do you consider important for the selection decision?