

Personal Statement Rubric	Needs Work	Adequate	Better	Outstanding
<u>Purpose</u> - What's your "why"? Are your professional goals and your motivation for a career in healthcare effectively communicated?	Off-topic or too vague	Marginally addresses the prompt; needs more focus. Goals are present but not obvious	Addresses "why medicine" but needs more details on key areas or deeper reflection	Author is reflective and clearly expresses motivation and professional goals
<u>Organization</u> - Is the PS structured in a logical manner? Is it appropriate for the intended audience? Is anything out of place?	Paragraphs lack coherence, direction, topic sentences. No clear thesis, theme, or story.	Paragraphs have some coherence but need better transitions or topic sentences. Thesis/theme/story is partially developed	Intro has a thesis/theme. Paragraphs may be imbalanced or need more development to support thesis.	Clear thesis/theme/story. Paragraphs have topic sentences that are logical and fully developed
<u>Content</u> - show, don't just tell! Is all content pertinent? Does your PS contain any "filler" or clichés?	Content is off-topic, vague, generic. No clear examples provided. Far over or under character limit	Content is somewhat weak. Needs more focus on key points/areas for discussion. Within character limit	Content offers some information about the writer. Some examples present	Content offers significant information about the writer. Stated qualities, talents, etc. clearly supported by specific examples
<u>Individuality</u> - Does your PS demonstrate personal reflection? Does it distinguish you from other applicants? Is the author memorable or remarkable for the right reasons?	Writing does not leave a dominant impression; information is dull, vague, or lacking examples. No conclusion	Writing offers some details but does not leave a strong impression. Conclusion present	Writing offers strong details/examples but some inconsistencies with voice throughout the entire essay. Conclusion is present but not memorable	Writing has a clear voice/presence throughout; reflections on experiences, activities, background show originality/insights/reflect personality. Memorable conclusion
<u>Grammar, etc.</u> - Is the PS grammatically sound? Are there any typos or problems with spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.?	Excessive grammatical errors distract from overall fluency of essay. Sentence structure awkward or does not flow.	Multiple grammatical errors, but overall story and flow are intact. Word choice not always appropriate	Minimal grammatical errors do not distract from overall fluency of essay. Word choice effectively conveys message.	Writing represents consistent command of grammar, spelling, syntax, etc. Words, phrases, sentence structure enhance the effective communication of ideas.
Comments or Suggestions for Applicant	(open text entry)			