



Personal Statement Requirements

What is a personal statement?

A Personal Statement is literally a statement of who you are as a person. It is important because Arizona Summit Law School looks beyond standardized test scores and undergraduate grades to find out what else you add to our learning community. We seek to build a community of students who are diverse in many ways but also unified in their commitment to our mission pillars of producing practice-ready attorneys, in a student centered environment, with a focus on serving the underserved.

What is the format of a personal statement?

The Personal Statement should consist of two, but no more than four, double-spaced pages in a standard 12 point font, such as Times Roman. The Personal Statement should accompany your application to Arizona Summit Law School.

What should I write about?

Arizona Summit Law School wants to know more about you as a person. We would like to know about your perspectives, contributions, interests, and diverse talents. The following are examples of subject matters that may assist you in getting started:

- 1. Leadership.** Have you influenced others as a leader, resolved disputes, or contributed to group efforts through personal initiative? Tell us about this aspect of your background and how your leadership experiences might benefit our community at Arizona Summit Law School.
- 2. Special Interests and Talent.** Do you have special interests or talents? Do they give you a unique vision or outlook on life? Describe your special interest or talent and tell us how it has enhanced your ability to see alternative and diverse perspectives, provide original ideas, or try new things.

- 3. Life Challenges.** Have you encountered any significant challenges in your life? Tell us about the challenge or challenges and how you dealt with it, the role that any other person played in assisting you, and what you learned about yourself.
- 4. Service.** Are you a person who has been dedicated to making your community a better place? Have you ever experienced special insight from your activities? Tell us about those efforts and other projects. Give examples of specific projects or experiences and what you learned from them.
- 5. Insights from Observation and Experience.** Have you ever faced or witnessed disturbing circumstances such as discrimination, extreme poverty or something similar? Have you observed people helping others or experienced the wisdom of other cultures or philosophies? What have you learned from these observations or experiences and/or how have they affected you?
- 6. Goals.** Do you have any life goals? How are your plans to enter the legal profession related to them? Show us your ability to imagine yourself and your world in the future. Provide specific examples of your diligence or work ethic and how you will apply them to meet your goals.

Tips

- 1. Write in the active voice.**
- 2. Write in plain, understandable language.**
- 3. Explain any weaknesses in your application in an "Addenda". The Admissions office will provide assistance, if needed.**

