

The UC Personal Statement

Due July 7th

In reading your application, the UC system wants to get to know you as well as they can. There's a limit to what grades and test scores can tell a UC, so they ask you to write a personal statement.

Your personal statement is your chance to tell the UC system who you are and what's important to you. Think of it as your opportunity to introduce yourself to the admissions and scholarship officers reading your application. Be open, be honest, be real. What you tell the UC system in your personal statement gives readers the context to better understand the rest of the information you've provided in your application.

A couple of tips: Read each prompt carefully and be sure to respond to all parts. Use **specific, concrete examples** to support the points you want to make. Finally, relax. This is one of many pieces of information the UC system considers in reviewing your application; an admission decision will not be based on your personal statement alone.

Instructions and Prompts

- Respond to both prompts, using a maximum of 1,000 words total.
- You may allocate the word count as you wish. If you choose to respond to one prompt at greater length, the UC system suggests your shorter answer be no less than 250 words.
- Stay within the word limit as closely as you can. A little over — 1,012 words, for example — is fine.

Prompt #1

Describe the world you come from — for example, your family, community or school — and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.

Prompt #2

Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?