Tips for Writing Your Personal Statement and Diversity Essay

Applying to veterinary school is an exciting process, and requires careful thought and preparation. The written components of the application may be the best opportunities for you to make yourself stand out from the crowd and be recognized as a potential candidate for the upcoming veterinary class.

Here are some tips to help you make your essays the best possible representation of you as a qualified applicant to the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine:

• **Start writing early.** Give yourself time to think about what you want to write. Spend a few days away from it and read it again. Allow yourself the opportunity to think of the most important points to highlight about yourself and your experiences.

• **Proofread, Proofread, Proofread.** Have someone else proofread your paper (a professor, academic advisor, friend, classmate, or family member). Then find someone else to proofread it again. An essay with spelling or grammatical errors is distracting to read, and demonstrates carelessness. Strive for the best possible writing piece!

• **Make it personal.** The written portions of your application are the best way for the Admissions Committee members to differentiate you from the other applicants. By painting a clear picture of who you are as a person and who you hope to be as a veterinarian, the admissions committee may feel a stronger connection to you and want to learn more. Don’t be afraid to be yourself!

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**Personal Statement**

The personal statement is part of the VMCAS application, and will be seen by **all** of the veterinary schools to which you apply.

The purpose of this piece is to describe why you feel the veterinary profession is right for you, and what specifically about veterinary medicine you find inspiring and interesting. You may want to use examples and anecdotes from your personal experiences to help convey this message.

**Diversity Statement**

The diversity statement is part of the UFCVM supplemental application, and will be seen **only** by UFCVM Admissions.

The purpose of this piece is to describe what unique and diverse qualities, attributes, insights, and experiences you have to contribute as a veterinary student and a eventually as a veterinarian. Veterinary medicine is a community, and we want to know what you have to contribute to that community!

For more information, please visit: [http://education.vetmed.ufl.edu/](http://education.vetmed.ufl.edu/)