**Essay – VMCAS**

Your personal statement is a one-page essay 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**. Visit the [Applicant Help Center](https://help.liaisonedu.com/VMCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_VMCAS_Application/VMCAS_Supporting_Information/01_Essay) for more information.

Once you submit your application, you cannot edit this section.

**Essay (3,000 Characters)**

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.
* Many of you have had meaningful experiences with animals or veterinarians as children and these are important but should only be mentioned briefly.
* Your application materials already contain a summary of your accomplishments, so avoid repeating information from your transcripts or reference letters.
* Give yourself time to organize your thoughts, write well and edit as necessary.
* Ask yourself if this essay is a good representation of your character, ideals and aspirations.
* Don’t forget to proofread!