



University of California
Personal Statement Worksheet
www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

The UC personal statement is your chance to describe who you are and what is important to you. It is an opportunity to introduce the “real you” to the University, beyond grades and test scores. First impressions mean a lot, so take this opportunity seriously.

About the University of California (UC) Personal Statement Request:

- Respond to BOTH prompts, using a maximum of 1,000 words total.
 - This is about 500 words for each prompt, or 750/250, or 600/400, whichever combination you like, just keep it to 1,000 words total. Your shortest response cannot be less than 250 words.
- Stay within the word limit as best as you can. A little over by 10-15 words is allowed. However, 20 words or more demonstrates that you are not following directions.
- The UC admissions reader is looking for one concrete example for each response. How do you narrow it down?

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?

1. What are your short-term goals?

2. What are your long-term dreams and aspirations for your life?

3. How have your dreams and aspirations been influenced by your...?

Family	Community	School

4. Choose ONE

5. How does this relate to success in college?

1. What are you most proud about yourself?

2. Why is this important for someone to know? How does this relate to the person you are?

3. How have you demonstrated who you are...?

Example 1	Example 2	Example 3

4. Choose ONE

5. How does this relate to success in college?
