

Sample Wayne State University Personal Statement Rubric

The purpose of the rubric is to provide a standardized assessment of the personal statement across applications. Admissions committees reach final admissions decisions through discussion and consensus and in accordance with Wayne State University's recommendations.

	1	2	3	4	Score:
1. Writing Style/Mechanics	<i>Incomplete or run-on sentences, little and/or poor punctuation</i>	<i>Sentence structure and punctuation needs editing</i>	<i>Sentences varied, some awkward. Punctuation appropriate for the most part, no major errors</i>	<i>Excellent sentence structure, varied in composition and length. Punctuation appropriate, error-free reflecting thorough proofreading</i>	
2. Quality of Research or Scholarly Experience	<i>No research experience, including no relevant research coursework</i>	<i>Research experience limited to coursework; no additional research experience</i>	<i>Research experience outside the field of interest with transferrable skills to proposed area of study OR Some basic research experience beyond coursework (e.g., data entry, scheduling appointments)</i>	<i>Excellent research experience in the field of interest (e.g., meaningful and extensive contributions and/or research skills, perhaps evidenced by honor's thesis, publications, presentations, or other scholarly products;)</i>	
3. Persistence and Motivation	<i>No evidence of persistence in achieving long-term goals or motivation for the field of study</i>	<i>Some evidence of persistence and motivation but not explicitly stated</i>	<i>Evidence of persistence and motivation provided with no accompanying information about relevance for the field of study</i>	<i>Evidence of persistence and motivation including initiative in seeking out opportunities and/or explanation of how the evidence is relevant to the field of study</i>	
4. Other qualities specified by program admissions committee (e.g., ability to contribute a unique perspective; leadership skills; applied skills relevant to the degree program)	USING "Unique Perspective" as an example: <i>No evidence of ability to share unique perspectives to enhance learning or contribute to the program needs/goals.</i>	<i>Some evidence ability to share unique perspectives but not explicitly stated</i>	<i>Evidence of ability to share unique perspectives with no accompanying information about relevance for the field of study</i>	<i>Evidence of ability to share unique perspectives and an explanation of how the evidence is relevant to the field of study</i>	
Average Score*					<u> </u> = Total/ # of Items

*Insert Average into Full Application Rubric.