



ASIS

Writing a winning SOP

What is Statement of Purpose (SOP)?

- A Statement of Purpose (SOP), is written to the admission panel and talks about your career path, interests, professional contributions, goals and the driving force behind pursuing a particular program.
- This is usually submitted in the form of an essay; however, certain universities may also keep it question-based. It is the most integral part of your application that decides your admission in your preferred institution.
- Talk about your beliefs, what you are doing and why are you doing ?

How to structure your SOP ?

Sections

Introduction

Background

Why the specific Country?

Why the specific University?

Career Goals

Why the specific Course?

Conclusion

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Introduction

Not a self introduction

Introduce the academic field of interest

Write how and why it interests you

Who do you aspire in this domain?

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Background

Academic background

Family

Professional experience (if any)

Extra curricular activities, interests, hobbies

List of achievements, participations, awards etc

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**Why the specific
country?**

Write about specific feature of the country from education point of view?

Never talk about staying in the foreign country for long

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**Why the specific
University?**

Specific features of the University

How its exposure will help realise your goal?

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Career Goals

Write about your career outcomes.

Mention immediate, short term and long term goals.

How the course will help you achieve your career goals.

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Conclusion

Sum up what you have written

Do not write anything about financial assistance

How to plan and write ?

- Give yourself sufficient time, do not make it in a hurry
- Check the guidelines of the university before you begin
- Customize for each college
- Plan it well and list down the points that you need to cover in the SOP.
- Brainstorm the ideas
- Prepare a draft
- Proof read and review it multiple times
- Get it reviewed from someone else

Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Write in active voice (as a first person)
- Link it to your personality, beliefs and your own aspirations
- Be concise and to the point
- Use simple language

Don'ts

- Avoid jargon, humour, technical terms etc
- Do not give false information
- Stick to the word limit
- Never copy from templates, use your own words
- No plagiarism (There are tools available to check plagiarism)