



Personal Statement Guidance

As part of your MLA College application, you will be required to submit a 2-300 word personal statement explaining why you would like to join your chosen programme.

Your personal statement is an opportunity to introduce yourself and articulate your reasons for wishing to study your chosen programme whilst displaying your skills and experience that underpin your application. The statement needs to be professionally written, thoughtful and informative.

Follow these headings as a guide:

- **Introduce yourself:** Personal skills and attributes, your strengths, influences, background, schooling, your extracurricular interests.
- **Describe your motives - why you are applying for the programme:** This could include: personal experiences that have motivated you, current reading or interests that you have, particular interest in this subject area, what modules excite you, continued personal development, the distance learning format, the right time, what the degree might help you to achieve in your future career.
- **Work experience:** Give an overview of your career path and achievements so far, include your current responsibilities and a clear description of the vessels, operational routines and how your role has changed and evolved with time; experience, size and type of vessel.
- **A brief overview of your current maritime and academic qualifications:** Describe your training route, what was involved and how you balanced the study.
- **Achievements:** Mention any awards that you have won, funding, positions of responsibility you have achieved, any career or personal milestones that you are proud of and/or are noteworthy.
- **Future career plans:** Short term and long term.
- **Conclusion:** Final couple of sentences summing up your application.