



# Personal Statement vs. Statement of Purpose

## Personal Statement

Who are you  
beyond your  
academics

Highlights personal  
motivations

How have you  
overcome obstacles

## Statement of Purpose

How your academic  
background and  
career goals fit with  
the program



## Top Tips in Writing your Statement

- Be specific with future goals
- Include details of the program that interest you & why
- How those goals and interests align with the program
- Talk about Accomplishments
- Put a positive spin on weaknesses and move on
- Be Authentic
- Edit & Proofread
- Proofread

**PROOFREAD**

**PROOFREAD!!**



# Resources

- [Choosing a Program - American Chemical Society \(acs.org\)](#)
- [Fully Funded Master's Programs in Chemistry | ProFellow](#)
- [When to Apply for Graduate School | Month-by-Month Timeline \(scribbr.com\)](#)
  
- [Statement of Purpose vs Personal Statement: The 2 Big Differences • PrepScholar GRE](#)
- [The Writing Center | Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing \(osu.edu\)](#)
- [Are you thinking about Graduate School? | Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology \(osu.edu\)](#)
  
- [Career Studio | ASC Career Success \(osu.edu\)](#)
- [Big Interview | ASC Career Success \(osu.edu\)](#)