

## Instructions for the personal statement letter

Instructions: Prepare a personal statement of 2-3 pages in length written in the style of a letter. This letter is very important in the evaluation of your application. Include all of the following items:

1. Discuss why you are interested in pursuing the Master of Public Health degree, the strengths you have at the time of application for admission, and those areas in which you would like to increase your expertise, competencies, and personal/professional development.
2. Outline your professional goals, both immediate and long term, (e.g., what do you see yourself doing with your degree).
3. What are your strengths and weaknesses as a scholar? What would you like to grow and improve in during your time as an MPH graduate student?
4. The MPH degree at K-State has four different areas of emphasis. In addition to the core courses, you will take courses in an area of emphasis. If you are not familiar with the emphasis areas unique to K-State please visit our website: [k-state.edu/mphealth](http://k-state.edu/mphealth)

Clearly state your preference for the area of emphasis you wish to study in public health and why. Note that your application will be reviewed by faculty from the emphasis area you select.

- Food Safety/Biosecurity
  - Infectious Diseases/Zoonoses
  - Public Health Nutrition
  - Public Health Physical Activity
5. Please detail which aspects of your chosen area of emphasis are most appealing to you and how they fit into your career goals. Also, indicate if there is a faculty member whose expertise seems to match your interests in your chosen emphasis area or another MPH faculty member.
  6. Describe 1-2 experiences that have shaped your interest in the field of public health. How are these experiences important for the master of public health emphasis area (listed in #4) you selected?
  7. Describe one academic experience that has meant the most to you in your educational career.
  8. Remember to date and sign or type your name on the letter.