

Advice to Students:

Writing Personal Statements and Statements of Grant Purpose

- Remember that your essays should address who you are and who you want to become and how the fellowship or scholarship will help you get there.
- Make sure that you carefully answer each question in the writing prompt. Read the mission of the fellowship and scholarship and make sure that you address that mission.
- Remember to show rather than tell. Incorporate vivid examples. No dictionary definitions.
- Have clear topic sentences and transitions. Focus on one topic per paragraph and make sure that you provide a smooth transition to the next.
- Many scholarships and fellowships are looking to support future leaders. How have you not only served in leadership roles, but also found gaps and structured your own leadership positions.
- Consult the Writing Center for advice between drafts.

Information Courtesy of The National Association of Fellowship Advisors (NAFA) 2015 Workshop