

Guidelines for Statements

What is a research statement?

A research statement is a document that provides a brief description of your past research experience, the current state of your research, and the future work you intend to complete. Your research statement should describe your specific research area, the larger question or questions that are being answered, the results of your research to date, and the significance of your work. You should also situate your work within the larger context of your field.

Be sure that your statement is cohesive. Include a few specific examples that show your success. For example, reference published findings, conference presentations, or other professional involvement.

What is a teaching statement?

A teaching statement presents your teaching philosophy and experiences. It should reflect your interest and commitment to teaching. Consider writing a cohesive statement that addresses the following questions:

1. What courses are you interested in teaching? Why those courses?
2. What do you hope to achieve as a teacher, i.e., what are your goals as a teacher?
3. What do you want students to be able to do after they complete one of your classes?
4. What methods or pedagogical approaches do you use or plan to use to help students achieve these goals? What teaching strategies do you plan to use and why? How do or how will you actively involve students in their own learning? You could discuss how different learning environments or students' learning styles influence your teaching.
5. Why is teaching important to you? What do you get out of it? What are your plans for developing or improving your teaching? How do you assess or plan to assess your teaching?
6. What teaching experiences have you had, if any.