

MITT Award Application Guidelines – Tips for Writing an Outstanding Personal Statement

1. Be careful when using AI to develop your personal statement

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools, such as ChatGPT and other writing assistants, can be helpful in brainstorming ideas and refining your writing. However, your personal statement should be a genuine reflection of your experiences, achievements, and aspirations. To ensure your statement remains authentic, please follow these guidelines:

- **Use AI as a tool, not a replacement:** AI can help with structuring your statement, improving clarity, or suggesting ideas. Your final statement should be written in your own words, based on your unique experiences and voice.
- **Be honest and authentic:** Do not use AI to fabricate achievements, experiences, or personal reflections. The selection committee values your genuine perspective over polished but generic writing.
- **Review and edit thoughtfully:** If you use AI-generated suggestions, ensure the final draft truly represents you. Proofread carefully to remove any generic or overly formal language that doesn't sound like you.
- **Remember:** a strong personal statement highlights your unique journey, passion, and commitment. The best applications come from you, not an AI tool.

2. Be Specific about Why You Chose the Program

- Avoid generic reasons like "I think this field is interesting" or "I want a stable career." Instead, explain how the program uniquely aligns with your skills, interests, or goals. Mention specific courses, hands-on learning experiences, or unique program features that appeal to you.
- Example: "I chose the MITT Business Administration program because the curriculum includes hands-on projects with real companies, which I believe will give me practical experience to develop my leadership and teamwork skills in a business setting."

2. Clearly Define Your Career Goals

- Avoid vague phrases like "I want to be successful" or "I aim to work in business." Instead, describe your ideal job or career path with detail. Even if your goals evolve, being specific will show thoughtfulness and focus.
- Example: "My goal is to become a digital marketing manager in a tech company, helping small businesses grow their online presence. I aim to use my skills to build innovative campaigns that directly contribute to business growth."

3. Explain How your MITT Certificate or Diploma Will Help You Reach Your Goals

- Show how specific aspects of the MITT credential will help you reach your career aspirations. For example, mention a relevant skill the program emphasizes or a course that fits your goals.
- Example: "The practical skills I'll gain in MITT's Web Development program will be essential for my goal of becoming a UX/UI designer. The emphasis on responsive design and real-world applications will prepare me to create user-friendly digital experiences."

4. Highlight Relevant Achievements and Personal Characteristics for the Scholarship Prompt

- Instead of simply listing accomplishments or traits like "I am hardworking," provide examples that demonstrate those qualities. Use specific academic achievements, volunteer work, or leadership roles to show why you're a deserving candidate.
- Example: "Last year, I led a team of volunteers to organize a local food drive, collecting over 500 items. This experience taught me about project management and community engagement, both of which I aim to develop further in my studies."

5. Avoid Generic Language: Be Personal and Authentic

- Generic phrases like "I'm passionate about this field" or "I want to make a difference" don't set you apart. Instead, share your unique experiences and motivations. Authenticity makes your statement memorable.
- Example: Instead of "I love helping people," try "When I volunteered at the youth center, I enjoyed working one-on-one with children to help them build their confidence and learn new skills. I realized I wanted a career that combines these same elements of personal interaction and impact."

6. Organize and Proofread Carefully

- Make sure your statement has a clear structure, with each paragraph addressing a prompt question. Proofread for spelling, grammar, and clarity, as errors can distract from your message.
- Aim for a natural, conversational tone that is professional but lets your personality come through.

By focusing on these points, you can ensure their personal statements are clear, specific, and compelling. Avoiding generalizations and focusing on detailed examples will make your application stand out.