

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Mid-Year Consort Process

Your autobiography has two important functions:

1. it helps Jodi get to know you better
2. it helps you clarify your thinking about medicine and can give you ideas for the various essays/personal statements you'll have to write during the application process.

When you write the autobiography, be yourself. Don't worry too much about grammar or spelling. Don't worry about being concise, and *do* be conversational. Think of your autobiography as a "story", or a letter or journal entry; include as much detail as you wish, remembering that this will only be read by Jodi. If you "let yourself go" while writing the autobiography, the process will likely lead to several good ideas for your personal statement.

Guidelines

- Please type. Include your name and address, phone number and e-mail address where you can be reached during the application process.
For Chicago and Penn, include your AMCAS ID #.
- Please write in chronological order and be as specific as possible.
- Please attach a resume for Jodi's use. You will need to submit another copy with your application.

Your Autobiography Should Cover the Following Topics

A. Motivation

Why you want to be a physician; when you realized you wanted to be a physician

B. Your academic history, including

Your choice of major and why

Honors received, if any

Thesis, if applicable

Research opportunities if applicable

Graduate or professional education and why you pursued it, if applicable

How you felt about your academic experience.

C. Work history (title, when, why, what you gained from each)

Full time jobs, if applicable

Campus jobs*

Summer jobs*

(*be brief, unless these jobs relate to your major or medicine)

D. Medically related experience

Describe each experience, the extent of your involvement including length of time and hours per week.

Describe your extra-curricular and volunteer work in the postbac program.

E. Other volunteer opportunities

Describe each experience, the extent of your involvement including length of time and hours per week.

F. Extracurricular activities/co-curricular/talents

Recently
During college
Special programs (eg. study abroad)
Hobbies, talents, travel

G. Explain gaps in time (if more than two consecutive months) when you weren't working or in school

H. Discuss what distinguishes you as a candidate for medical school

I. Your background, family history and important influences

Discuss anything about your family and background that you think is relevant. Please include each parent's occupation and highest education level.

J. Include a brief statement explaining your reasons for choosing the medical school where you are applying and if you have any family that attend or worked at that school.

K. Discuss your grades for each of your courses at this point in the semester.

L. Briefly describe where you would like to be in your personal and professional life in 10 years

M. Other comments

Please specify how you are planning for the MCAT and any other comments you want to include.