



Congratulations on your decision to apply to the University of Edinburgh. You have applied to one of the most prestigious universities in the U.K. The University of Edinburgh is a highly competitive program, and we want our students to do everything they can to strengthen their applications. As part of your application to the University of Edinburgh, you are required to write an academic statement.

A well-written personal statement can make the difference between a regular application and an incredible one. The departments at the University of Edinburgh admit applicants who are driven, motivated, and prepared for an academically rigorous semester. Writing a strong academic statement will strengthen your application and help differentiate you from other applicants.

Think of your statement of purpose as a college admissions essay. Your academic statement should be about 500 words, and outline the reasons why you want to study at the University of Edinburgh and the department(s) you've chosen. A statement can be especially useful for providing additional information which is not immediately apparent from your transcript and which is relevant to your department and course selection. You should discuss your reasons for applying, preparation you've done to be academically suited to the University of Edinburgh and specific study and research interests that you intend to pursue while abroad.

Your statement should also describe how and why a study abroad year/semester in Edinburgh will assist you in achieving your academic and professional goals. For example, if you are applying to the English Department because you want to go to graduate school and focus on English Literature or a particular time period in literature, mention this. If taking a specific history course offered at the University of Edinburgh will round out your academic background for your application to graduate school, mention this.

You must complete and submit your academic statement along with the other forms included in this document. Your application is not considered complete until you have sent in an academic statement.

The Edinburgh academic statement does NOT replace the Personal Essays form that was included in the IFSA-Butler general application materials. Both essays are required to complete an application.