



YOUR FULL GUIDE ON  
**CYBERSECURITY PERSONAL  
STATEMENT WRITING**



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# YOUR FULL GUIDE ON CYBERSECURITY PERSONAL STATEMENT WRITING

Cybersecurity studies is the need of the hour. Many universities and educational institutions are offering degrees in cyber security, but the competition is really tough there. Cyber security job market is growing due to increasing use of internet for information, business and shopping. A lot of data in the cyber space need to be protected, as it includes your passwords, credit card numbers and other sensitive details. If you want to get a degree in cybersecurity, you have to get admission in a reputed institution. For that a good personal statement is a must. But, for students it's not easy to write personal statements. Here is the step by step guide, which can help you to write a personal statement on your own.

## Part 1: Developing Your Statement

**1. Focus on the purpose:** You have to focus on the cyber security. Think about related skills which you can mention in personal statement. It should be according to the academic level. For graduate level, personal statement will be different and for master's level it will be different.

**2. Research about target institutions:** You have to target a few institutions, who offer cyber security degree, and which are suitable for your other needs. Read the mission statement of every institution and write your personal statement according to that. Some institutions give preference to the grades while other value community services and social work. So, you have to write a customized statement for each university and write it according to its preferences.

**3. Define your career goals:** Readers are interested in your career goals, particularly. Brainstorm your goals and write in your personal statement. However, many students are not clear about their goals. You can ask yourself some questions, which can help you to define your goals.

- How this cyber security degree will impact your future?
- What is your career goal?
- Where you want to see yourself in next 5 or 10 years?
- How you can reach your goal?
- What are the other goals, which you need to accomplish to reach your ultimate goal?

**4. Why you should be selected:** You have to keep in mind that you will be facing tough competition. So, you have to make a list of those qualities, which make you different from the others. Make a list including your leadership skills, communication skills, team work etc. What are the achievements you feel proud about? What were the important turning points in your life, which shape it the way it is now? How you are better than the other candidates?

**5. List your formal achievements:** Your formal achievements will be mentioned in your CV; personal statement is not the right place to enlist them. But some significant achievements can be mentioned here. Don't write a complete list, just a few important ones, like





- Academic distinctions
- Scholarship and fellowships
- Awards and honors
- Work place promotions
- Published works
- Official recognition for community contributions

**6. How you have reached this far:** Cyber security is a new field. You have to draw the path, which developed your interest in this field. You can write this part, by answering few questions.

- How you developed your interest in cyber security?
- What do you like most about cyber security?
- Why you think cyber security is important?
- What are your previous experiences in this field?
- What was your previous dreams before you selected cyber security?

**7. Challenges you have faced:** It will be interesting to mention the challenges you have faced to reach this far. It will explain your hard work and efforts, which you have done to reach here. You can make a list, which can be something like this.

- Family problems
- Physical disabilities
- Learning issues
- Financial problems
- Social prejudice

Now you have all the basic information required to write your personal statement. Next, step is to write it down, in proper format.

## 2: Putting Personal Statement Together

**1. Outline the structure:** You have a limited space to write all the information you have collected. So, it's better to outline the important points and write your personal statement accordingly. You can divide it in three paragraphs, in the first paragraph mention why you choose cybersecurity as your future degree. In second paragraph mention your work experience and career plans. In the last paragraph, mention your extracurricular activities.

**2. Get a strong start:** You have to grab the attention of your reader right from the beginning. You can start it like a story, which will be much more interesting than statement. Explain your interest for the cyber security and why you have selected this degree.

**3. The body of personal statement:** The second paragraph is equally important. The focus of this paragraph should be on your future goals. You should not write it in general way, rather focus on cyber security. Mention your experiences and unique characteristics.

**4. Be positive:** You have to be very confident and write all this information in a very positive tone. Avoid the use of weak phrases. Mention how bravely you have faced the challenges in your life.





**5. The end:** Like the beginning, end of personal statement should also be very convincing. It should make a long-lasting impression on the mind of the reader.

### Part 3: Revising Your Statement

**1. Fix the length:** Many university give the word count or page limit for the personal statement. You have to fix the length of your personal statement according to that. If it's not clearly mentioned, make it one and half page long. If it's too short, expand it. include some important points in all three paragraphs. Avoid adding general information. If it's too long, compress it by removing the unnecessary information from all three paragraphs.

**2. Edit it yourself:** Read your personal statement many times and fix the errors. Spelling mistakes, grammatical errors and sentence structure mistakes may need your attention. Edit and proofread it again and again.

**3. Ask for third person opinion:** Ask a friend to help you. A third person can give you a better feedback. If it seems appropriate, edit your statement.

**4. Final touch before submission:** Read your personal statement again before submission. Do proper formatting. Fix the font size, which should not be more than 12 pts. The font style should be easily readable. It's a formal document, so go for the Times New Roman or Arial. Don't use a colorful font. Justify the text properly.

This is a general guide for your cyber security personal statement. Make sure whatever you write in your statement is correct. Don't exaggerate the things and don't tell any lie.

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