



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Application for Graduate Admission

Statement of Purpose – Applied Economics (ECAM, ECAO) and Economic Analysis (Z074, Z098)

Please upload the response to the prompt below to the *Statement of Purpose* section of the online application.

The online application's instructions suggest a word count of 1000-2000 for the personal statement. Longer than 2000 words would probably be excessive. Three or four clear paragraphs should do. Please explain why the program is a good fit for you, and how it fits into your academic and professional goals.

Many graduate programs at the University of Maryland ask applicants to discuss research interests. That is not necessary in the personal statement for our program. Since our program is a professional program, and not a stepping stone towards a PhD in economics, we are not trying to train people to produce original research. We are training people to be professional analysts who are able to apply economics and econometrics in quantitative evidence-based analysis. That does require being able to understand and apply the findings of cutting edge research. But we do not need our students to have original research agendas of their own, or to have specific faculty mentors in mind before they enroll in our program.

Please keep the standard academic criteria for admission to our program in mind. The standard admissions criteria include a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4-point scale), or a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 in a previously completed graduate program. We also want to see grades of B or better in introductory courses micro- and macroeconomics, and calculus. If there are any ways in which your previous academic record does not meet the standard admissions requirements, please address those issues in your personal statement. Explain why we can expect you to succeed in our program despite those issues.
