



## Sample of Personal Statement

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Childhood memories imprint a long lasting effect. My time each evening with my cousins at my uncle's factory has a prolonged impact on me. I remember this profoundly because it is during this phase when I began understanding what the factory, we played at did. The beautiful packaging of the items that were sold allured me invariably. Alongside, my admiration for agriculture and nature grew as I often visited my father's farm on the weekends. However, as I grew, I analyzed how a collaboration of these two interests could be consummated into productive output. Having explored various technical realms, I am now intrigued to continue my MS in Packaging where I would promote sustainable ways.

From the beginning, I was innately propelled to lead. As a result due to my proactive trait, I was elected as the deputy head girl of the school. Other than this, I have enjoyed participating debates and group discussions. Putting across my point convincingly has helped me voice my opinions and this has given me a lot of confidence. Moreover, I have won essay writing competition in school which instilled in me art of creative writing too. My participation in cultural activities and school and college has encouraged me to bring the same vivid ambiance to your university.

Although I completed my Engineering in Electronics and Electrical, but I have a fair understanding of how data is used to transform raw information into a useful one. I got this understanding when I began working at Accenture. Initially, I was hired to be trained for SAP ABAP; however, gradually, owing to my logical thought process, I was found suitable to work as a service control analyst for Sun chemical. As soon as I joined this new department, I was asked to head the project, as my seniors had left for reasons unknown. In the six months where I worked in technical and management arenas, I continued to hone my skills in both these spheres. I showcased my leadership skills with credence as I could complete the project successfully within the timelines. What was surprising was that in a team of six, 4 employees were completely new to the organization, and I was a newcomer myself administered their work. This was recognized by other members and I was appreciated for pitching in at the right time.

Moreover, I have volunteered at the NASSCOM 'MyKartavya' foundation. As a volunteer, I have diligently worked to spread social media awareness about various social issues for 6 months. This brought to the fore my skills to work with different mindsets and diverse backgrounds. In this tenure, I met people who had different viewpoints in carrying out an awareness program and were different culturally too. Here I understood the importance of perceiving others' opinions and how to incorporate them into the action plan.

Apart from this, I am equally passionate about creativity and art. Due to this, I have ventured into a small business called, 'Purple Solace' along with two other friends. Together we create kits for art lovers who are at the elementary level. To use this kit, one need not have any specific learning in art and can still produce



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beautiful pieces. Post my association with 'MyKartavya Foundation', I decided to use the proceeds from this business towards social welfare. I use half the profits towards feeding the hungry and the homeless. I have realized that not every business needs to be solely for-profit purposes and can have social welfare and community help as a motive too.

My comprehensive learning has enabled me to stabilize my goals to eventually plunge into the packaging business and become the platform where sustainable packing can be promoted in a full-fledged way. For this goal, I aim to study the MS in Packaging under the esteemed Professor at the Michigan State University. I wish to study under Professor Rafael Auras and dive deep into sustainable packaging. His study on the environmental footprint assessment of packaging and the creation and design of sustainable packaging systems excites me.

The comprehensive exposure I have had has equipped me to confidentially embark on this new academic course in packaging. I am certain I will be able to learn and utilize the skills immaculately.