

## Guidelines for MRFP Objective Statement

Your objective statement should be no more than 1 page in length. It must be typed. The purpose of the statement is to provide our admissions team with an idea of what your life has been like, what led you into medicine, and what about you will make you a successful research fellow. You must consider your individual characteristics and motivation in order to write this statement successfully. Consider including some of the following information:

1. Explain why you are interested in our program and why you have chosen to attend GW, describing particular attributes of the MRFP that appeal to you.
2. Explain how your academic experience and qualifications fit the programmatic areas described on the website, highlighting the specific specialty to which you are applying (although you may describe your skills pertaining to more than one specialty). Detailed information about the MRFP can be found here: <http://smhs.gwu.edu/imp/programs/international-scholars/medical-research-fellowship-program>.
3. Describe your professional and personal experiences (e.g. prior jobs, internships etc.) that led to your interest in developing a research portfolio in the named area. Describe the area of research, the length of the exposure, with details of the scope of the experience including challenges faced, skill sets and perspectives gained. Provide supporting documents such as prior thesis, reports, and published papers augmenting the description, if available. Hands-on experience with data management and statistical analysis should be described in depth.
4. Describe other experiences and unrelated skills (e.g. strong organizational, writing, or logic skills) that are valuable adjuncts to your major area of interest, and have enabled your professional development.
5. Describe your motivation for applying for the program, with an in-depth assessment of your professional goals (both short- and long-term), and the specific outcomes you wish to achieve in your career. Describe your personal work style and your ability to work independently and with others.