

PERSONAL STATEMENT GUIDELINES

Master of Global Community Development

STEP 1. Before writing your statement, complete the online Readiness Assessment.

The Readiness Assessment helps you to determine whether the program is a good fit for your personal and professional calling. Your answers are not used for admission screening, but are for personal reflection. **Please print each page of the survey results for submission with your statement.**

[Go to online survey »](#)

STEP 2. Write a Personal Statement

After completing the online survey, write a statement using the following guidelines. Include the headings provided where relevant.

1. Using the APA format, cite at least five scholarly articles to support your observations. (10 points)
2. Proofread carefully before submitting. The statement will be evaluated as a demonstration of your writing skills. (10 points)
3. **Personal Biography**—Provide a short biography addressing why global development is a good fit for you. (5 points, approximately 1 page)
4. **Assessment Reflection**—Discuss items in the Readiness Assessment that stood out positively or negatively to you. (20 points, approximately 4 pages)
5. **Lowest Rated Items**—Select five of your lowest rated items and discuss how you will address these to ensure success in your graduate program. (10 points, approximately 2 pages)
6. **Personal Faith**—Share how your personal faith will impact your effectiveness in empowering communities to help themselves. (10 points, approximately 2 pages)
7. **Field Residency**—Discuss any personal challenges you may face in completing the one-semester field residency at an international site. (5 points, approximately 1 page)

STEP 3. Submit your Personal Statement and assessment results.

- Email submissions to Melodie Lopez malopez@southern.edu
- Send postal submissions to Graduate Studies, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315

Questions?

Call 1.800.SOUTHERN or email Melodie Lopez at malopez@southern.edu.