Personal Statements

You may create one or more personal statements; however, only one personal statement may be assigned and sent to an individual program. Each personal statement is limited to 28,000 characters (approximately 8 pages). If a program requires additional information that is not included in your transcript or MyERAS application, you may include this information in your personal statement and assign it to that specific program.

To Create a Personal Statement:

1. Go to the *Documents* tab and select the *Personal Statement* tab.

2. Enter a title in the *Personal Statement Title* field.

3. Enter or copy/paste your personal statement into the *Personal Statement Content* field (see the *More about formatting* link for copy/paste information).

4. Click *Save*.

5. Carefully review your personal statement and click *OK,* if satisfied with your personal statement.

A list of all saved personal statements will display at the top of the page. You will have the ability to edit them prior to assigning it to a program you have applied to. Once it has been sent to a program, the *Edit* link in the *Action* column will no longer be available. You may print your personal statement and view a list of programs you have assigned your personal statement to, using the links in the *Action* column.

We recommend you create your personal statement(s) in Notepad and then copy and paste the text into the box provided for the body of the personal statement. Do not use bold, italic, or special characters, as these may show up as unreadable characters in the programs software (PDWS). Also, be descriptive in the title of your personal statement. Since programs will not be able to see the title of your personal statement, use the title to help identify the document when you are assigning it to programs later in the process. Upon completing the personal statement, you should print copies for your records.

Any suspected acts of plagiarism will be investigated by ERAS. Any substantiated findings of plagiarism may result in the reporting of such findings to the programs to which you apply now and in subsequent ERAS seasons.

Note	There are a number of Web sites that provide examples of personal statements. Do not take any information from these sites and use them in your personal statements without giving credit to the author. This is considered plagiarism.

Letters of Recommendation (LoRs)

The *Letters of Recommendation* tab allows you to create a list of people who will write letters on your behalf. You also have the ability to print *Letter Request Forms* and view a list of programs to which you