

Write your personal statement. (A statement, approximately 750 words, that identifies your academic goals, career objectives, why you are applying to this program, and the qualifications you have that make you a strong candidate for this program.)

My passion for those less fortunate drives my plans for the future. On Saturdays, I collect leftover food from a local market in order to feed the poor. As I do this, I see so many other ways to aid those in need. I plan to own and run a portfolio of small businesses whose profits will go to charity. Small businesses will allow me to be involved in day-to-day decisions while multiple establishments will fund various charities as well as support my family. Also, I'd like to own a micro-finance company that would enable those in the third world to better their situation while providing decent returns for the loan financiers.

A couple of years ago, my plan was to be an engineer and cross over into business after ten years or so. While I was starting my upper level engineering courses, I realized that engineering might not be the area of study for me. I worked hard in my classes, harder than I had ever before, but I was still struggled. I decided that I was too far into the program to switch majors and that I should persevere and finish what I started. Now that I am in an engineering position, I find myself less interested in the technical issues of my company and more interested in the financial issues.

My parents did not have the money to send me to college so I had to support myself and take out loans for my tuition. Most of the time at Cedarville University, I worked at least twenty hours a week. Because I was working a lot and because I was in a major I found very challenging, my grades suffered. Regardless of my situation, I continued to work hard and rejected my situation as a reason for failure. Engineering did not come easy to me but I was determined to graduate with as high of a GPA as I could.

I didn't realize until recently that business and numbers have always come easy to me. I recall being in the fifth grade and looking at the stock pages in the Wall Street Journal. I followed the share price of IBM as much as I followed the records of my favorite sports teams. In college, I'd study books and magazines on finance and investing. I'd often provide advice as well technical and fundamental analysis on stocks for my dad and friends.

As well as following the stock market, I am very interested in small businesses, how they make money and how they can be more efficient. Because I want to take over some existing small businesses as part of my for-charity portfolio, I need to develop existing skills and learn new ones. Such businesses include a small investing firm, a micro-financing website and rental properties.

I see what I want to accomplish in my career and I see my skills and where I am right now. In order to close that gap, I need an MBA from a top ranked school. I need the financial knowledge and managerial skills to run the various businesses I will own. I want to receive the best education I can while maintaining flexibility in learning. Completing an MBA on my schedule is very important to me because I value my time

with family and friends. A first rate education will help me run my businesses well. Because of the flexibility and esteem of the program, the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University is my first choice.

I believe I am qualified for the Kelley School of Business because of my hard work, perseverance and passion. Although my undergraduate GPA is a little low, I have shown that I can work through hardships and finish what I start. My GMAT score shows that I can think analytically and that I am mentally ready for business school. I enjoy learning about business and ways to make it more efficient. While enjoyment will not get me an "A" on a test, it will make my time at Indiana University easier. My mind operates around numbers and getting advantages in business. I know that I can be successful at the Kelley School of Business and I know that my career will shine well on the Kelley MBA program.

Write your personal statement. (A statement, approximately 750 words, that identifies your academic goals, career objectives, why you are applying to this program, and the qualifications you have that make you a strong candidate for this program.)

I believe I am qualified for the Kelley School of Business because of my hard work, perseverance, and passion. I have shown that I can work through hardships and finish what I start, even though my undergraduate GPA may not demonstrate this. My GMAT score shows that I can think analytically and that I am mentally ready for business school. I enjoy learning about business and ways to make it more efficient. As early as fifth grade, I was reading the Wall Street Journal whenever I could get my hands on it. I followed the price of my favorite stocks like I followed the records of my favorite sports teams. Even now, I read books and magazines on business practices for fun. Business is what I like to do.

I am currently employed as an engineer at a nuclear power plant. This position has helped me develop interpersonal skills, as I have to work with people of varying ages from all over the world. This job, as well as my undergraduate degree, has taught me to be thorough in my work and in my studies. I have learned how to produce quality work in a timely manner while under pressure. Often, I am assigned complex tasks to complete in small amounts of time with my coworkers. I am able to break down the project, prioritize the individual tasks, and outline what our team needs to do in order to succeed. These skills will ensure my success at the Kelley School of Business.

My career goals are to spend a few more years in engineering then cross over into business. I want to have my MBA degree finished so I can seize a desired business position with my current employer when it becomes available. Eventually, I'd like to be an entrepreneur with a portfolio of small businesses. Small businesses will allow me to be involved in day-to-day decisions, while owning multiple establishments will ensure the security and comfort of my family. The profits from at least one of these businesses would go to charity.

I know my skills and where I am professionally right now, and I also know where I want to be and those skills I need to get me there. The bridge for this gap is an MBA from a top ranked program. A few courses in particular at the Kelley School of Business will help me achieve those professional skills. The Financial Management course will equip me for the business and commodities trading side at my current utility company. The US in Global Economics course will help me predict future business trends as well as market ups and downs. This course will be especially useful when I own small businesses. I will be able to adapt to an ever-changing local and global marketplace. I am particularly interested in the Economics for Managers course. According to the description, this course will develop practical skills that will help me maximize profits and minimize costs in my small businesses. In short, my academic goals exist to achieve my career goals.

A friend recommended the Kelley School of Business to me after hearing rave reviews from an alumnus. This program offers the aforementioned courses and much more. It is a

top twenty program with a faculty ranked number one in teaching ability. An online program is optimal for me because I value time with my family. The flexibility offered through Kelley Direct will allow me to fit the courses into my schedule. I will be able to do coursework at home instead of commuting and sitting in traffic. The Kelley School of Business offers the top-ranked program I want and the flexibility I need in an MBA program.

I will persevere through anything, as shown when I completed a challenging engineering program while working twenty hours per week. Hard circumstances are not an excuse for failure. Business school will be difficult, but I will work hard and successfully obtain an MBA degree. I have a passion for business which, combined with my will to succeed, will make me successful at the Kelley School of Business.