What is a motivation statement?
A motivation statement is a document that supports a resume and explains why YOU are the best candidate for the job.\(^2\) As described by Stephanie Rempe, a motivational statement should answer four basic questions:

1. Why are you applying for this opportunity?
2. What academic or personal interests do you have that relate to your application?
3. Why are you applying to this program in particular?
4. What can you contribute to the program?

How should I organize my motivation statement?
For the purposes of the Cal Poly LSAMP Research Scholars Competition, we are requesting that you tailor your motivation statement to meet the following criteria:

- **LENGTH:** Limit the motivation statement to no more than one half of a page.

- **CONTENT:** While the above questions provide general advice for motivation statements, this specific motivation statement should focus on responding to (1) *why this specific research project is interesting to you* and (2) *how it will advance your educational and/or research goals and how it might define your post-research plans.*


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