Please upload the response to the questions below to the Uploads Requirement section (Supplementary Application) of the online application.

Write a targeted essay (approximately 500 words) addressing: what do you see as the most significant opportunities/challenges in the information field and describe how these relate to your interests and goals, what strengths and abilities you bring to the profession, and why you are interested in the MLS degree at the University of Maryland.

Reviewers look for applicants who:

• Demonstrate an understanding of the information profession and his/her goals within it;
• Are service-oriented and demonstrate the characteristics of adaptability, creativity, and collaboration;
• Are comfortable with and eager to learn new technologies;
• Have leadership potential; and
• Have relatively clear career goals/interests.

School Library Specialization Candidates Only
School Library candidates must upload the materials listed below in addition to the supplementary application targeted essay listed above. Please upload the response to the questions below to the Uploads Requirement section of the online application.

The Master of Library Science with a specialization in school libraries provides you with many opportunities to advance your career in library science. To ensure the program is a good fit for your background, interests and abilities it is important for us to have a good understanding of your goals and how you see those fitting with the activities you would be doing if accepted into the MLS program. To help us access this aspect of your application, please provide short answers (125 words or less) to the following questions:

1. What will it mean to be an excellent school librarian in a school?
2. What skills do you need to learn to be an excellent school librarian?

We will be looking for the following points in your essay:

• Describe the roles and responsibilities that a school librarian may play in a school, and how do these roles and responsibilities contribute to the overall teaching and learning environment in the school;
• Demonstrate a thoughtful consideration of what skills are needed to be a good school librarian, and what you expect to learn in the UMD MLS program.
• Address the need for a school librarian to reach diverse learners and maintain a positive and engaging learning environment for all students; and

Upload and complete:

• Foundational Competencies Self-Assessment Form
• Criminal History Disclosure Form