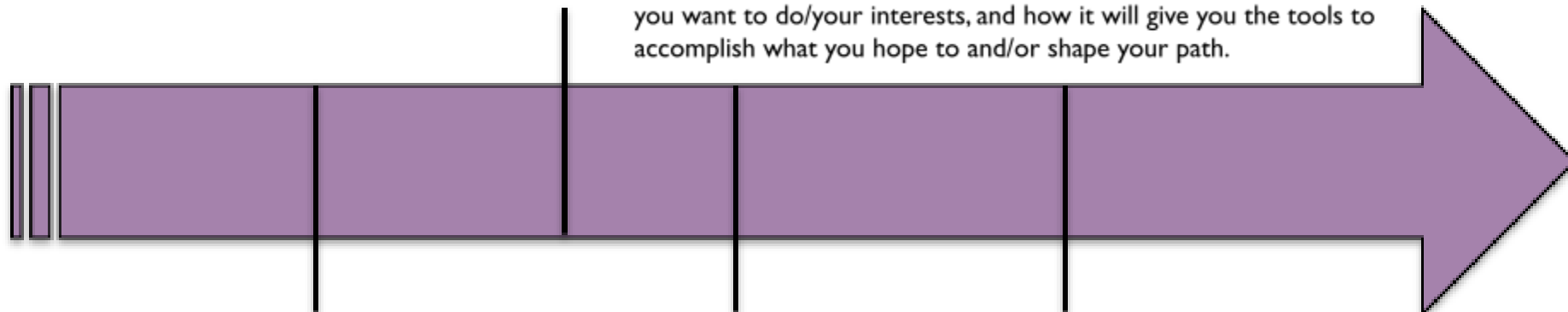## You are here.

Vectors have direction and velocity—a personal statement should too! Brainstorm based on the questions below how to communicate the ways in which your experience prepares you for this opportunity, why this opportunity is a great fit based on what you want to do/your interests, and how it will give you the tools to accomplish what you hope to and/or shape your path.

What classes have you taken in your field of study, or related fields?

Have you done any research or lab work?

What skills/perspectives did you gain from these experiences?

How did they help clarify your interests (even if you decided you weren't interested in that topic)?

What are you hoping to explore/study/research and why is it important to you?

How will you go about pursuing this work? What do you have to do or learn to get there?

Why are you applying to this opportunity? Are there particular experts, facilities, faculty, classes, etc. that make it (or them) a good fit with your interests?

How will this experience shape or prepare you for what you want to do in the world?

What do you hope your work will contribute to knowledge, society, the world? (Dream big!)

How do you hope to help others in your field? How might you mentor or open doors for those who follow?