# Application Requirements: Combined Degree Program

Once you begin your application, **you will not be able to save and return to the form later on**, so we encourage you to gather your materials before starting the application!

To submit, you will need:

- **Personal contact information.**
- **Two Professional References:** One of them must be a member of the Columbia College Chicago community. This person can be faculty or staff. Your second reference can also be from Columbia or from outside the school.
- **Professional Resume**: Uploaded as a PDF or Word document.
- **Personal Statement**: Uploaded as a PDF or Word document. Instructions for the personal statement essay are specific to the program to which you are applying and outlined below.
- **Portfolio:** You will upload your portfolio separately from this application and we will send you further instructions after you submit your other application materials.

## Personal Statement

### Civic Media, MA

Your personal statement should address the following questions in an essay format (between 700-1,000 words):
- Describe your background and one major influence to be socially conscious.
- How does your personal and professional experience align with the program's values?
- Why you feel you are a good fit for the program?
- What inspired you to pursue an MA in Civic Media?
- What do you hope to learn from the program?
- What social issues interest you and how would you like to use media to address them?
- Anything else you think the review committee should know?

### Entrepreneurship for Creatives, MA

Your personal statement should be 750 words and use specific examples to answer the following questions:
- Why are you interested in the MA program, and why at this point in your life?
- What entrepreneurial goals are you pursuing now or hope to pursue?
- What have you done that demonstrates your ability to communicate effectively, solve problems, engage in purposeful research, and lead people?
- What have you done that reveals your individual initiative, judgment, and maturity?
- In what ways have you used business-related software and technologies effectively?
- What else would you like the committee to consider when reviewing your application?

## Interaction Design, MA

Your personal statement should be 500 words and include: how you plan to use your graduate degree to further your intellectual and creative self; an outline of your goals, aspirations and expectations of the program as you understand it; and an explanation of your interest in interaction design from the perspective of specific software or designed interaction experiences.

## Strategic Communication, MA

Your personal statement should address the following questions in an essay format (750 words max.):

- Why are you interested in the MA in Strategic Communication at this point in your life?
- How do you think this degree will augment your current skills and expertise, both short and long term?
- What special skills and perspectives do you bring to the field of Strategic Communication?
- What do you think are the biggest challenges facing communication professionals today working for businesses, organizations, and/or associations?
- Anything else you think the review committee should know?