

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

Applicant's personal statement should address the following:

1. Describe your experience with Oriental medicine, what it means to you personally and professionally, and why you want to become an Acupuncture or Oriental medicine practitioner.
2. Describe how you anticipate your lifestyle will change as you participate in the programs at PIHMA. Please include the support systems and/or physical resources in your life that will help you successfully complete the program you choose.
3. Describe the role of the modern Oriental medicine practitioner. Consider the pragmatic role as well as the role of healer versus healing facilitator. Please include how you envision yourself contributing to both the well-being of your patients and to the profession.

### LETTERS OF REFERRAL

Recommendation letters should be from 2 different business or health care professionals who know you well, but are not family members, and who can attest to your character and ability to complete the program. Letters must be a minimum of two paragraphs in length and should describe the nature of your relationship.

### TIPS FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

#### **Applicants with foreign academic coursework**

Applicants with foreign academic coursework must provide an official transcript evaluation by a credentials evaluation service with the application. For further information on how to obtain a course by course English translation transcript evaluation please go to [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org). PIHMA reserves the right to verify the authenticity of applicants' academic records with the issuing institutions.

#### **Applicants who are not US citizens**

Applicants must provide a copy of their current Visa.

#### **Applicants Who's First Language Is Not English**

All students whose first language is not English must demonstrate adequate English language proficiency in advance of admission. English language proficiency must be verified in one of the following ways:

1. Applicants may sit for either the International Testing Program or the Special Center Testing Program (TOEFL) and have an official score report sent directly to Graduate and International Admissions. The minimum acceptable TOEFL score is 550.
2. Applicants may submit a properly certified copy of their General Certificate of Education administered by a British Testing Agency the subject English Language. Recognized equivalent examinations will also be considered.
3. Applicants may submit academic records certifying that they have graduated from a recognized secondary school, college or university where English is the exclusive language of instruction and is located in an English-speaking country.
4. Applicants may demonstrate that they have lived in and / or worked in the United States for more than 10 years.
5. Applicants may submit academic records certifying that they have completed courses, totaling at least 6 Semester hours, equivalent to both English 101 (English Composition I) and English 102 (English Composition II) with earned grades of "C" or better at a regionally accredited college or university in the United States.