

# Prove your Worth:

## Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement

Task 2.3



# Pre Task Activity

<https://nsfgrfp.org/applicants/statements/>

What does  
intellectual merit  
and broader impact  
really mean?



# Task Goal and Directions

Using professional English, write an effective PRBFG statement

1. Write the PRBFG statement
2. Format the PRBFG statement
3. Share the PRBFG statement

# 1. Draft the PRBFG statement

- Intellectual Merit
  - potential to advance knowledge
- Broader Impacts
  - the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes.

Use the statements to show leadership potential, self-starter capabilities, and the ability to work well with others.

Show passion, motivation for a STEM career, and initiative in your past research and other experiences.

## 2. Write the PRBFG statement

- Copy and paste your personal statement from this program
- Add in the new headings (Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts)

### 3. Share the PRBFG statement

Upload your PRBFG statement to the folder. Be prepared to share your statement with the class.

Why is intellectual  
merit and broader  
impacts important  
when talking about  
your research?

# Pacing Activity 1

Elvis Aaron Presley, born January 8th, 1935, was an American singer and actor. Known as the "King of Rock and Roll", he is regarded as one of the most significant cultural figures of the 20th century. Presley's energized interpretations of songs and sexually provocative performance style, combined with a singularly potent mix of influences across color lines during a transformative era in race relations, led him to both great success and initial controversy.



# Pacing Activity 2

Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi, and relocated to Memphis, Tennessee, with his family when he was aged 13. His music career began there in 1954, recording at Sun Records with producer Sam Phillips, who wanted to bring the sound of African-American music to a wider audience. Presley, on rhythm acoustic guitar, and accompanied by lead guitarist Scotty Moore and bassist Bill Black, was a pioneer of rockabilly, an uptempo, backbeat-driven fusion of country music and rhythm and blues. In 1955, drummer D. J. Fontana joined to complete the lineup of Presley's classic quartet and RCA Victor acquired his contract in a deal arranged by Colonel Tom Parker, who would manage him for more than two decades.

# Pacing Activity 3

Presley's first RCA single, "Heartbreak Hotel", was released in January 1956 and became a number-one hit in the United States. Within a year, RCA would sell ten million Presley singles. With a series of successful network television appearances and chart-topping records, Presley became the leading figure of the newly popular sound of rock and roll; though his performative style and promotion of the then-marginalized sound of African Americans led to him being widely considered a threat to the moral well-being of white American youth.

# Pacing Activity 4

In November 1956, Presley made his film debut in *Love Me Tender*. Drafted into military service in 1958, he relaunched his recording career two years later with some of his most commercially successful work. Presley held few concerts, however, and guided by Parker, proceeded to devote much of the 1960s to making Hollywood films and soundtrack albums, most of them critically derided. Some of his most famous films included *Jailhouse Rock* (1957), *Blue Hawaii* (1961), and *Viva Las Vegas* (1964). In 1968, following a seven-year break from live performances, he returned to the stage in the acclaimed television comeback special *Elvis*, which led to an extended Las Vegas concert residency and a string of highly profitable tours. In 1973, Presley gave the first concert by a solo artist to be broadcast around the world, *Aloha from Hawaii*. However, years of prescription drug abuse and unhealthy eating habits severely compromised his health, and Presley died suddenly in 1977 at his Graceland estate at the age of 42.

# Pacing Activity 5

Having sold roughly 500 million records worldwide, Presley is one of the best-selling music artists of all time. He was commercially successful in many genres, including pop, country, rhythm & blues, adult contemporary, and gospel. He won three Grammy Awards, received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award at age 36, and has been inducted into multiple music halls of fame. He also holds several records, including the most RIAA-certified gold and platinum albums, the most albums charted on the Billboard 200, the most number-one albums by a solo artist on the UK Albums Chart, and the most number-one singles by any act on the UK Singles Chart. In 2018, Presley was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Exit Ticket 2.3