

Sample SOP for MBA in USA: Technology and Product

Applicant profile: Nikita Sharma, 6 years as a software engineer, targeting product leadership

Sample statement written to a multi-prompt format, three answers of about 250 words each (abridged)

Prompt 1: What are your career goals and how will this MBA help you achieve them?

I want to lead product for enterprise data platforms, and I want to do it with commercial judgement rather than engineering instinct alone. Six years of building has taught me how systems work and how teams ship. It has not taught me how pricing decisions get made, how a portfolio gets funded or how a product line survives a downturn. My short-term goal is a senior product manager role at an enterprise software company. Longer term, I intend to run a product organisation. The core curriculum, the technology management electives and the product management practicum address exactly the gaps I have listed, which is why I am applying now rather than after another promotion.

Prompt 2: Describe a time you led without authority.

Our platform team shipped a migration that broke reporting for two enterprise clients. I had no mandate over the client-facing teams, but I convened the engineers, the support lead and one account manager into a daily triage for eleven days. I built the shared status document, ran the calls and made the call to roll back one component against my own team's preference. Both clients stayed. Afterwards I wrote the incident review that became our standard template. The episode taught me that authority is mostly a willingness to organise other people's urgency, and it is the closest experience I have to the general management work I am pursuing.

Prompt 3: Why this school?

Three specifics. The product management practicum places students with real companies for a full term, which is the closest available substitute for the role I want. The technology strategy sequence covers platform economics, a subject I have practised without ever studying. Finally, the entrepreneurship centre's enterprise software focus matches my long-term intention to build rather than only manage. I attended an online information session in April and asked about the practicum's client mix, and the answer confirmed the fit.

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