CUHS PS Example
Mathematics 2026 (2)

Q1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?
This is your opportunity to showcase your passion and knowledge of your chosen subject area and to demonstrate to universities and colleges why they are a good fit for you and your future ambitions.

Mathematics and informatics have played a significant role in my life. I went to my first mathematics competition when I was just seven years old, and I have not stopped ever since. I have always enjoyed tackling hard problems, understanding complex concepts, and even though there were times when I felt stuck, the eventual joy from succeeding always made the struggle worth it for me. At university, I hope to continue challenging myself in these areas.

Q2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
This is your chance to shout about the relevant or transferable skills you've gained from your education and highlight your understanding of how they will help you succeed in this subject area.

In my high school years, I decided to attend a special mathematics class, where we have seven mathematics lessons a week. This school has allowed me to improve my skills in mathematics, and it also introduced me to programming, which I also started competing in. I joined an online programming club where I had the chance to learn new algorithms from some of the best teachers and former informatics Olympiad medallists in my country. During this period, I became deeply passionate about competitive programming. I tried to solve every task that we got between lessons, and I also looked for extra material online to further improve my knowledge.

My results at competitions got better, and in 2023 I competed in the European Junior Olympiad in Informatics, where I managed to get a gold medal. This was my first introduction to Olympiad style problems, and I absolutely fell in love with them. To solve such a task, you must go through many steps: first, you make observations and develop an intuition for how the problem works, possibly simplifying it. Then for the different subtasks you must discover many unique ideas, each leading you one step closer to the full solution. It is also a challenge to manage your time carefully, maintaining the right balance between coming up with solutions and implementing them.

Since then, I have competed in many Olympiads, my best results include a gold medal at the International Olympiad in Informatics 2025 and another one at the Central European Olympiad in Informatics 2024. I also have several strong results from national competitions: OKTV (Hungarian National Olympiad) Informatics category: 1st place, 2025; Tihamér Nemes Programming contest (National Olympiad in 9th-10th grade): 1st place, 2023 and 2024; OKTV mathematics category: 14th place, 2025.

Q3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?
This is your chance to reflect on any other activities you have undertaken outside of your education, or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be deeply personal to you, so anything you include should be meaningful and relevant to you.

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I have participated in various mathematics and informatics camps throughout the years, but I would like to highlight two of them in particular. The first is a mathematics camp organized by the Joy of Thinking Foundation, where I encountered some of the most beautiful problems, and developed a lasting passion for combinatorics. The second is ACTS, an international programming training camp, where I had the opportunity to learn about different complex data structures and algorithms from internationally renowned teachers. It was also a great opportunity to connect with other students, and to take part in memorable free time activities. Overall, these camps have contributed greatly to my personal growth, and they also showed me what it's like to be part of a vibrant community – sharing ideas with peers and learning together.

Most of my preparation now consists of competing in online contests and solving tasks independently. I have solved over 1,000 problems and competed in more than 100 programming contests. After I have solved a problem, I try to extract a main takeaway that I can apply in the future. Similarly, if I struggle with a task for a long time, I reflect on why that particular idea was difficult for me to find. I consider this self-reflection a crucial element of my development.