



Masters of Social work Personal Statement Guidelines

Instructions: Create a personal statement document covering all of the sections and questions below. Write the document in a way that will help faculty understand more about you and why this advanced social work career is important to you.

Format: There are four sections of the document. Use these sections as headings in your document. In each section fully answer all questions asked using paragraph format. Additionally, format your document double spaced, with Times New Roman font size 12, and 1 inch margins.

Introduction

How did you become interested in the field of social work?

What is your previous experience in social work or related activities – both paid and voluntary.

What You Bring to the Profession of Social Work

How does your personality, values and beliefs support your decision to pursue your masters in social work? (Focus on the strengths and the areas of opportunities for growth).

Reflection on Self and Social Work Values

It is important for social workers to demonstrate the core values of the social work profession. These include service, social justice, dignity and worth of the individual, importance of human relationships, integrity and competence.

Explain how these values inspire your work with people in general and people who are different than you in terms of religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, age, etc.

We all have biases. Are you aware of any biases that you may have about any of these different people?

Commitment to Graduate Education

Graduate school is an intensive learning experience and requires a large amount of time. In addition to course work, students are required to complete field education hours (400 hours for foundation year, 500 hours in the advanced year).

How will you adapt your life to accommodate for course load expectations and field education hours for graduate school, considering your life commitments (family, work, self-care, etc.)?

What is your overall plan to ensure success in graduate school?

**Only address if applicable. If your undergraduate GPA does not meet minimum standards for admission, indicate special circumstances that should be considered in determining admission to the program. How will your performance in graduate school be different than your undergraduate education?*