

Personal Statement

As part of your admission application to the social work program, please prepare a "personal statement" that addresses the areas listed below. The Admissions Committee will use the summary to assess your basic writing skills and to help them arrive at a decision about your admission application. Your typewritten summary should be approximately four-five pages in length and double-spaced.

Personal Statement Outline

- Discuss your perceptions of the social work profession.
- Discuss at least two major reasons you chose to pursue a social work career.
- Describe your successes in school, work, and your personal life.
- Describe the barriers you have had to overcome to pursue your educational, work, and/or personal goals.
- Describe your experiences working with people (voluntary and/or paid). Please indicate the type of setting and the length of your experience in each setting.
- In your opinion, what experiences have prepared you to work effectively with diverse populations (e.g., racial, ethnic, age, disability, socioeconomic, sexual orientation, and/or religious diversity)?
- In your opinion, what difficulties might you encounter working with any of the groups listed above? (Please be specific.)
- Describe your professional career plans.
- List or provide a summary of your strengths that equip you for the social work profession.
- All social workers exhibit personal limitations that sometimes interfere with effective social work practice. What limitations have you identified and targeted for change? In addition to the item listed above, applicants should include any additional information pertinent to the admissions decision.