

Personal Essay Guidelines

As part of the admissions process, you are required to submit an essay of five (5) to ten (10) double-spaced, typewritten pages covering the material outlined below. The essay will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee

Your essay should touch on each of the topics listed below:

1. Trace the origin and development of your interest in social work. Show any influences family, personal, educational and vocational experiences may have had on your choice of a career.
2. What are your personal qualifications for social work practice? Describe any strengths and limitations that might affect your ability to help others.
3. Discuss the way in which you handled a social experience or personal situation that has had a significant emotional impact on you. How did this experience contribute to your knowledge of yourself and others?
4. Discuss your experience, feelings and ideas about working with multi-cultural populations and settings.
5. What are your expectations of graduate social work education? Describe the knowledge and skills you hope to gain.
6. If you wish to bring to the attention of the Admissions Committee any information regarding a physical or emotional condition or a family problem you feel may have affected your past academic performance, please do so in your essay.
7. What is your plan to finance your graduate education?