

2018 Undergraduate Social Work Application

Personal Statement

Each applicant is asked to complete a personal statement following the guidelines below. The composition and content of the personal statement is a critical element in the review of your qualifications. Your statement should be a maximum of five (5) pages, typed, double-spaced, and in 12 point font. Please use the question number and its associated subheading when responding to each question.

1. Academic Performance (this question pertains only to those with a cumulative GPA less than 2.5)
 - a. What measures will you take to improve your academic performance if admitted to the program?

2. Knowledge and Awareness of the Social Work Profession
 - a. Describe influences in your life which have helped shape your interest in social work.
 - b. Discuss your social work career goals.

3. Student Organization, Volunteer, or Work Experience Related to Social Work
 - a. Discuss your student organization, volunteer, and work experiences.
 - b. What skills have you developed from these experiences that will translate to the social work profession?

4. Personal Strengths and Areas for Development
 - a. Provide examples of personal strengths which you consider most pertinent to social work practice.
 - b. Discuss areas that need to be addressed and resolved in order for you to be successful when working with clients.

5. Diversity
 - a. Social workers encounter tremendous diversity in the issues and populations they serve. Which issues and populations would you find particularly challenging (consider such variables as race and ethnicity, socio-economic status, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, and age)?
 - b. How will you reconcile and manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients?

6. Time Management
 - a. In addition to classes, students must successfully complete a 420 clock-hour field placement in the senior year (15 hours per week throughout Autumn and Spring Semester or 30 hours per week during Spring Semester, within regular business hours). How you will effectively organize and manage your field, class, employment, and personal time in order to meet deadlines and attendance requirements.
 - b. What challenges do you foresee and what support systems do you have in place?