

BASW Program Admission Application

Student Personal Statement and Essay Questions

As part of your BASW Program Admission Application, please answer the questions below. This is a critical part of your application. Consider it your opportunity to communicate with the Admission Committee about yourself and your interest in social work. Review your answers carefully and make sure that your answers fully communicate your interest in social work and reflections on your academic progress and motivation for the field. Social Work is a writing intensive discipline. Make sure you edit your answers and that they reflect your skills as a writer.

IMPORTANT NOTES ON FORMAT

Please answer all 5 questions in a word document with a cover page. Excluding the cover page your admission essay should be in the 5-7 page range. Please answer the questions in the order they are listed. Begin that section of your paper with the question number you are answering. Use APA style for your essay – 12pt font, 1-inch margins, cover page and a reference page for any citations you use.

When completed you **MUST save your file as a PDF**. This is the only file format that can be uploaded. To do this in your word document, navigate to the file tab. Select “SAVE AS” once you select the location for your document to be saved, save file name **LASTNAME-Admit-Essay** and select the file type from the dropdown as **PDF**. The filename should now be LASTNAME-Admit-Essay.PDF

1. What is your understanding of the social work profession and the social problems social workers address? Define what social work as a profession means to you and give an example of a social issue/problem you are interested in and its relevance to the profession.
2. How did you become interested in social work? What personal experiences such as leadership opportunities, volunteer work, community involvement, social justice efforts, etc., have cultivated your interest in social work? How do these relate to your academic and career goals?
3. Describe your personal philosophy and understanding of working with people different from yourself (this includes but is not limited to gender expression, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, religion and/or socioeconomic culture). What do you see as your personal strengths and limitations in working with difference?
4. The NASW Code of Ethics states that social workers are to respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person. Social workers are to treat each person in a caring and respectful fashion while remaining mindful of individual differences and cultural and ethnic diversity. Briefly describe how this fits with your personal values. How would you resolve any conflicts with this concept?
5. Do you believe your current GPA accurately reflects your ability to successfully complete a BASW degree? Please explain your answer. What have been the strengths in your academic journey thus far? What limitations might you need to address to be successful in your undergraduate studies and work to become a professional social worker?