



Personal Statement Instructions

Each applicant should carefully consider the purpose of the personal statement in the application decision process. This statement should be well thought out, carefully written and edited, and not exceed five double-spaced typewritten pages. The statement should address the following areas:

1. Summarize clearly your recent work experiences, educational experiences, social experiences and any volunteer experiences that influence your decision to apply to our program and indicate how these experiences may contribute to your interest in pursuing graduate studies in social work.
2. Describe your career goals. Identify how these goals are compatible with the Advanced Generalist concentration that is offered in the graduate social work program at the University of Wyoming. If you are not familiar with the idea of an advanced generalist social worker, you can locate social work articles that address this practice perspective.
3. Identify personal and intellectual qualities that prepare you for a graduate program in social work. How will these qualities serve as an asset for others who you might be learning alongside you?
4. Identify the social problem or concern that most influenced your decision to apply to the MSW Program. If you have participated in an effort to respond to this problem, describe that involvement.
5. Illustrate your understanding of human diversity and difference as applied to social work. Give an example of your experience with people who have a background different from your own. Indicate how this experience may influence your practice as a social worker.
6. What gaps or deficiencies do you see in your work experience, attributes or skills that would need to be modified in order to successfully pursue graduate studies in social work and professional social work practice
7. How have you prepared for the financial costs of graduate education? How will you cover the expected tuition costs and travel costs to study over the 10 weekends during the Fall and Spring semester that students travel to the Laramie campus? If you are planning to continue with your current employment, will you reduce your work hours, have leave time for field practicum experiences, etc.? How do you anticipate managing your semester of a full time field internship?