



Personal Essay: MSW Program

Please address the following questions below in an essay format rather than as separate questions and responses. Your essay should be 3-5 pages in length and be formatted using page numbers, a 12pt font, double-spacing, and one-inch margins.

1. Talk about personal and/or professional reasons that led you to choose the field of social work.
2. Identify your professional goals and how a social work education n at the University of Wyoming will provide a way to achieve them.
3. Social workers need to celebrate and experience joy. What are sources of joy for you? How do you imagine incorporating this into your practice?
4. If our GPA does not meet the minimum standards for admission, the Division of Social Work must petition the Graduate School for a conditional admission. Please indicate special experiences or circumstances that would support a petition for conditional admission. Discuss how, if granted admission to the MSW program, you plan to address potential obstacles to successfully completing the program.

What Application Reviewers Assess When Reading Your Personal Essay & Analytic Essay

For both the personal statement and the analytic essay, the reviewers will:

- Assess your preparedness for graduate studies.
- Confirm you have adhered to the formatting instructions for each document.
- Validate use of credible sources cited in the essay that supports your analysis.
- Appraise your grammar and spelling skills.
- Evaluate your ability to think critically and respond in depth.
- Assess your ability to write a clear and well-organized response.
- Verify that all questions posed have been answered.

Reviewers will read your personal statement to assess whether you have:

- Expanded beyond the desire to “help people”
- Demonstrated critical self-reflection.
- Shown knowledge and understanding of the social work profession.