Personal Narrative Statement Outline

Please limit your narrative to 5-6 typed, double-spaced pages with 12-point font, and number your responses to correlate with the questions below. In addition to the content of your responses, the admissions team will be assessing your capacity for clear and professional writing; therefore, no use of generative or corrective AI is permitted. By signing and submitting this document, you certify that the content is your original work.

Name (top of first page)

1. Why are you pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at this time? Please describe any volunteer, work or life experiences that contributed to your choice of social work as a profession.

2. The NASW Code of Ethics identifies six core values of the social work profession, describing them as “the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective.” The core values are: service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. Briefly summarize how your own experiences demonstrate these professional values, giving specific examples.

3. It is imperative that social workers practice cultural humility and exemplify sensitivity to ethnicities, religions, beliefs, and lifestyles that may differ from their own. Briefly describe any experiences you have had that will strengthen your ability to work proficiently with diverse clients.

4. The Grand Challenges for Social Work initiative lists 14 social issues that our profession works to address in various settings and roles. Choose one, and describe how you envision yourself contributing to positive, equitable solutions to this challenge as a social worker.

5. Graduate school requires significant time, energy, and financial commitment. In addition to classroom-based learning, the Traditional MSW program requires at least 900 hours of field placements with social service agencies, while the Advanced Standing program requires at least 600 hours in field. After reviewing the requirements for the program to which you are applying, including the MSW Student Manual and the MSW Field Manual, and the financial aid information available through the Graduate School's website, please describe your plan and capacity for meeting the expectations of the MSW program.

6. Signature and date