

PERSONAL STATEMENT QUESTIONS

MSW Personal Statement

This is an integral part of your application. The admissions committee will evaluate the quality of writing and the content. The essay should address all of the questions in a minimum of five double spaced pages. Please place your name in the upper right-hand corner of each page of your essay. If you are applying for the MSW program and Type 73 School Social Work Certification please disregard the following MSW personal statement questions and answer the Type 73 personal statement questions.

1. Why do you want to earn a graduate degree in social work from Dominican University? Why have you chosen social work as your profession? Have you considered other professions? Discuss your personal values, philosophy, knowledge of social issues and the professional and community experiences that have influenced your decision to enter the profession. Briefly describe your career plans.
2. What are your personal strengths that will be assets to a career in social work? What attributes do you possess that contribute to your ability to help others? What do you consider your limitations that may impede you in your practice as a social worker? And, what have you done in the past to address these limitations? Tell us about a specific example or a critical situation in which you have played a helping role.
3. What experiences, positive and negative, have you had in working or volunteering in a social work agency or organization?
4. What life experiences—personal, family, educational—have contributed toward your decision to pursue social work?
5. Discuss a contemporary social problem. Include the following: your reasons for identifying it as a social problem; what elements comprise the “problem;” what would be done to address this problem and by whom; and what your role might be as a MSW in addressing this social problem.

Type 73 Personal Statement

Please answer the following questions if you are applying for the MSW program and Type 73 School Social Work Certification or if you already have your MSW and are now applying for the Type 73 School Social Work Certification. The essay should address all of the questions in a minimum of five double-spaced pages. Please place your name in the upper right-hand corner of each page of your essay.

1. Why do you want to earn a Type 73 Certification? Why have you chosen school social work as your profession? Have you considered other professions? Discuss your personal values, philosophy and knowledge of social issues impacting the schools that have influenced your decision to become a school social worker. Briefly describe your career plans.
2. What are your personal strengths that will be assets to a career in school social work? What attributes do you possess that contribute to your ability to help students? What do you consider your limitations that may impede you in your practice as a school social worker? And, what have you done in the past to address these limitations? Tell us about a specific example or a critical situation in which you have played a helping role.
3. What experiences, positive and negative, have you had in working or volunteering in a social work agency or school?
4. What life experiences—personal, family, educational—have contributed toward your decision to pursue school social work?
5. Discuss a contemporary social problem impacting the elementary or secondary school system. Include the following: your reasons for identifying it as a social problem; what elements comprise the “problem;” what would be done to address this problem and by whom; and what your role might be as a school social worker in addressing this social problem.