

## **MSW for Working Professionals Personal Statement Guidelines**

The personal statement is an important part in the selection process. Use separate sheets of paper, include your name on each page, and respond to each of the following questions in a clear and concise manner:

1. Describe your experiences (work, volunteer, social, personal, professional) that contribute to your motivation to pursue graduate studies in social work, and to your commitment to social justice and to creating change. If you do not have a BSW, include how your previous studies are relevant to Social Work. (Maximum: **400** words)
2. Explain why you have chosen your area of interest (i.e. child welfare, health, gerontology). Discuss your current understanding of social problems in that area. (Maximum: **400** words)

While answers should be well developed, you should limit the length of your personal statement to a maximum of **800** typewritten words.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Personal statements will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- *Ability to communicate clearly and succinctly,*
- *Evidence of critical and analytical skills,*
- *Potential contribution to practice in an area of interest,*
- *Complement between social work and the applicants' identified professional goals and interests.*