

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST STATEMENT

PERSONAL INTEREST STATEMENT (PIS): Using the GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST STATEMENT listed below, type your statement, double-spaced. The PIS must be at least three full-length pages, BUT NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES. Use Times New Roman, font size 12. Do not leave extra space between paragraphs. Please make sure your name is at the top of each page and that all the pages are stapled together. Do NOT enclose a cover page with your statement. We will use your Personal Interest Statement to gain a sense of who you are, what your interests and values are, and to assess your motivation for the profession. Your Personal Interest Statement is also a writing sample, so it should be well-written and free from spelling and grammatical errors. This is a paper about yourself and should include the following items:

1. Why have you chosen social work as a profession?
2. What are your career objectives with an MSW degree?
3. In what ways did your BSW education prepare you for your intended field of practice? Describe your BSW field education practicum(s) and significant practice experiences. (*MSW Pre-Candidate Master with Advanced Standing Status students only)
4. How do you conceptualize the practice of social work with client systems? (*MSW Pre-Candidate Master with Advanced Standing Status students only)
5. In what ways have your life experiences had a bearing on your potential for the social work profession?
6. Describe your strengths and limitations for social work practice, including:
 - your concern for social problems
 - attitude toward people with different values, life styles, cultures, and/or religions from yours
 - capacity to be self-critical and to benefit from the feedback of others
 - ability to think, learn and work under pressure
 - ability to work with others.
7. Address your compatibility of interest with the urban mission of the School.
8. Describe your plans for financing your graduate education at Wayne State University.
9. Describe how you might cope with the demands of graduate studies at Wayne State University.

Please add any additional information you feel will assist us in evaluating your application.

***The MSW Pre-Candidate Master with Advanced Standing Status is open only to those applicants who hold a baccalaureate degree from a CSWE accredited program.**