

Statement of Purpose

Begin your Statement of Purpose with these identifying points at the top of the document:

Last Name, First Name, University ID

The MSW Center location to which you wish to apply

Statement of Purpose

Part I – Experiences

1. Write an essay that does not exceed 1,000 words.
2. Describe:
 - a. Experiences (personal, professional, academic) that influenced your decision to be or become a social worker
 - b. Paid, volunteer, practicum, and life experience relevant to social work
 - c. Describe experiences working with people who have experienced oppression
 - d. Strengths you would bring to the School and the profession
 - e. Challenges you have faced or are facing that may affect your readiness for graduate study and/or social work practice
 - f. How you will balance graduate study with other responsibilities

Part II – Goals

1. Write an essay that is about 350 words. Do not exceed 400 words.
2. Describe
 - a. Areas of your development that you will focus on during the master's program, including your practicum/practica
 - b. Short and long term professional social work goals
 - c. Highlight goals related to creating a more just society
 - d. How the University of Iowa School of Social Work curriculum and faculty will facilitate your goals

Name the file "Statement of Purpose" and upload it to your Admissions Profile in [MyUI](#).

Additional essay required for one-year, 36 s.h. advanced standing applicants in Des Moines or Iowa City

ONLY. Do not complete this section if you are applying to the: two-year, 36 s.h. advanced standing program in Des Moines or Iowa City; 54 s.h. regular standing program in Des Moines or Iowa City; or Quad Cities, Online or Sioux City programs.

1. Add the heading "One-year Advanced Standing Program"
2. Write an essay that is about 350 words. Do not exceed 400 words.
3. Describe:
 - a. Specific practice interests. Consider: the client population you want to work with; whether you want to work at the micro, mezzo or macro levels; the type of social change you want to advocate for; the environment you want to work in.
 - b. The programs, agencies or organizations you are considering for your advanced practicum, identifying the agencies by name and the learning opportunities you seek.
 - c. Lessons from your social work experience thus far that inform your identified practice interests and the learning opportunities you seek.

The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, gender identity, associational preferences, or any other classification that deprives the person of consideration as an individual. The university also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to university facilities. For additional information on nondiscrimination policies, contact the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, The University of Iowa, 202 Jessup Hall, Iowa City, IA, 52242-1316, 319-335-0705 (voice), 319-335-0697 (TDD), diversity@uiowa.edu.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the School of Social Work Student Services Center, in advance at ssw_office@iowa.uiowa.edu or phone: 319 335-1250.