

OHIO UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

OUTLINE FOR THE PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND INTEREST ESSAY
FOR APPLICATION TO THE M.S.W. PROGRAM

Please prepare a narrative typed, double-spaced, statement of 2-4 pages, with attachments, if necessary, addressing the following:

- 1.) Your desire and interest in pursuing a graduate degree in social work, incorporating experiences in your personal background that have affected your decision as well as your understanding of the profession.
- 2.) The personal qualities, strengths, abilities and skills that you bring to the profession.
- 3.) The paid and volunteer experiences that you have had in helping people, specifying those in which you have worked with people with backgrounds and cultures different from your own, and how they have impacted on your desire for a career in social work. Please attach a resume, but discuss your work and volunteer experiences within the essay, as well.
- 4.) The social work and social work related member organizations to which you belong or have belonged, and positions you have held in them, if any.
5. The reasons you wish to pursue your graduate social work education in a program with a rural focus, including the geographic location(s) where you hope to practice after graduation.
- 6.) Whether you are seeking a specialization in clinical practice with individuals, families and small groups or policy and administration during your masters' education.
- 7.) Your career goals upon graduation, short-term and long-term.
- 8.) The level of your computer, quantitative analysis and research skills.
- 9.) Whether there are any special factors that you wish the Admissions Committee to be aware of in considering your application to the program.
 - a.) If you have a disability, please supply details complete enough for us to ensure that we can make any reasonable accommodations and provide you with an appropriate field assignment.
 - b.) If you have a felony conviction, please provide documentation of its nature and disposition, and provide enough details to enable us to determine whether we can offer you a field assignment.
 - c.) If spoken or written English presents a problem or is a second language, please address your proficiency and ask those providing references to do so as well.
- 10.) If you are requesting Advanced Standing (which requires a baccalaureate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program within five years, a GPA of 3.25 and a social work GPA of 3.5), please specify your preferred concentration (clinical or administrative), include a reference from your senior field instructor and a copy of your most recent senior field placement evaluation, be willing to provide additional information if requested and, if accepted, plan to engage in the field placement process during the Spring quarter prior to program enrollment.

- Please Note:**
- a.) Employment-based field placements must be approved by the Field Office, and are subject to CSWE restrictions. Employment-based field placements are not an option for Advanced Standing students.
 - b.) **If you are requesting a stipend from the department, you must fill out a separate stipend application form.**