

**Missouri State University
School of Social Work**

Personal Statement

Name of Applicant

Social Security No.

Please submit this statement with your application form. Be sure to sign and date the last page of your statement. Attach this form as the cover sheet of your statement.

- In order for the Admissions Committee to more fully evaluate an applicant's request for admission into the School of Social Work, each applicant is required to complete a Personal Statement. This is a crucial element of the application process. **Please submit a double-spaced, typewritten, three-to-five page statement.** The following points should be addressed as a guide for constructing a balanced statement detailing your background, experiences and interests.
- How did you become interested in social work? What experiences - personal, educational or professional - caused or confirmed your interest in social work? If you considered or were involved in another field before choosing social work, what were your reasons for such a change?
- How have your family experiences and relationships contributed to your interest in social work?
- What are your reasons for deciding to pursue graduate work study at this time? What expectations do you have for graduate education? What areas of difficulty do you anticipate, if any?
- Discuss those personal qualities and abilities you feel will be helpful to you in the social service profession.
- Discuss your career interests and goals. Which areas of social work practice do you intend to pursue? As a graduate social worker, how would you contribute to achieving the goals of the social work profession?
- Briefly discuss a current social issue that you believe is relevant to the practice of social work.