

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SUPPLEMENTAL ADMISSION APPLICATION MATERIALS

for the

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE PROGRAM

601 Howard Place, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20059

Phone: (202) 806-6450 Fax: (202) 387-4309

Websites: www.socialwork.howard.edu; www.howard.edu Email: socialworkadmissions@howard.edu

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
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GUIDELINES FOR THE M.S.W. STATEMENT OF INTEREST ESSAY

The *Statement of Interest Essay* is an essential document in the admissions application process. It facilitates the Admissions Committee's understanding of you, your interests, and goals. Please respond to the following questions and areas of inquiry to develop your "Statement of Interest" essay. Do not exceed four double-spaced typewritten pages.

- (1) What are your long-range and short-range career goals? Why are you requesting professional education at this time? In which social work *field of practice* do you plan to concentrate, *family and child welfare services, criminal justice, mental health, health, social gerontology, or displaced populations*? In which social work practice method do you plan to concentrate - *Direct Practice, or Community, Administration & Policy (CAP) Practice*?
- (2) What experiences (employment, community service, social, educational, personal or others) have significantly influenced your interest in social work? What experiences have contributed to your ability to understand and work with people?
- (3) Provide a candid discussion of your strengths and weaknesses. Which qualities do you consider essential for the social work profession?
- (4) Discuss what you consider to be the most important contemporary social issue(s) and/or problem(s).
- (5) Read carefully the "Mission Statement" which follows. How will your interests and career goals be met at the Howard University School of Social Work?
- (6) The School offers a limited number of highly competitive assistantships, tuition scholarships and stipends to eligible students. Eligibility may be based on academic performance, interest area, full-time enrollment, and need. Therefore, each applicant should give careful consideration to financial planning. State specifically your plan for financing your education.

MISSION STATEMENT

The School of Social Work's mission is to prepare MSW graduates for advanced professional practice at the local, national and international levels for the solution of human problems and to become leaders in their communities; and to prepare doctoral graduates for research, the professoriate, and leadership in the global community. We are dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge through discovery, research, partnerships, innovative practices, and other scholarly educational endeavors of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Graduates of the master's and doctoral programs are expected to become architects of liberating structures in culturally diverse families and communities that are empowered to serve the best interests of all of their members. The education prepares our graduates for knowledge generation and compassionate exemplary community service.

Please complete and attach this form to your *Statement of Interest Essay*, and enclose and mail your *Essay* along with your completed *Admission Application Form, \$45.00 Admission Application Fee (money order or cashier's check only), Experience Summary, Recommendation Letters*, and any additional materials that may be required, to the School of Social Work at the address indicated.

Admissions Office
Howard University School
of Social Work
601 Howard Place, NW
Washington, DC 20059

Applicant Name: _____

Telephone: Day: (____) _____ Evening: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

Contact Us:

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M.S.W. APPLICANT RECOMMENDATION

To be completed by the applicant: Please print or type your name and contact information in the space provided below. Please give this form to individuals you have requested to submit recommendations to the School of Social Work Admissions Committee on your behalf.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Address	City	State Zip Code
Email Address	Day Telephone Number	Evening Telephone Number

*NOTE: The applicant has the right to review this letter of recommendation upon written request under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended by the Buckley/Pell Amendment. The applicant *may* relinquish the right to review this letter of recommendation by signing and dating the waiver which follows. If the applicant has signed and dated the waiver which follows, the applicant has relinquished the right to review this letter of recommendation.

*Optional Waiver: This waiver is fully optional. The applicant is not required to sign this waiver and may retain the right to review this recommendation. Waiver by signature is optional and strictly voluntary.

I hereby waive my right to review this recommendation as provided by applicable privacy statutes.

Applicant Signature

Date

The individual named above is an applicant for admission to the Howard University School of Social Work (HUSSW) Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree program. The HUSSW M.S.W. degree program seeks capable students who are committed to enhancing human wellbeing, and changing and transforming those human organizational, social and economic conditions that impact the quality of life of African Americans, other people of color and people throughout the world. Upon successful completion of the academic and related requirements, the M.S.W. degree is awarded.

With this in mind, please provide a candid evaluation of the applicant's preparedness for graduate study, range of abilities and accomplishments, creative and intellectual promise, ability to handle differences of opinion and ability to pursue an intensive, demanding graduate academic program. Please indicate the length of time and the capacity in which you have known the applicant.

Howard University complies with the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended*, and applicable related mandates, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to its programs. **Please do not refer directly or indirectly to any disability the applicant may have.**

Please attach this form to your letter, and place the letter with the form attached in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal. Please return the letter in the sealed and signed envelope to the applicant. Thank you very much for submitting your recommendation on behalf of the applicant.

Blanchita P. Porter
Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management
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