Personal Statement

A personal statement addressing the six items listed below is required (double-spaced, 12-point font, 5 pages maximum). When formulating your statement please use the introductory paragraph headings listed below (e.g., Personal Goals) as section headings.

1. Personal Goals: Describe your personal reasons for applying to a PhD Program. What position(s) do you plan to seek after completing the program?

2. Professional Goals and Interests: Please give a brief statement of:
   (a) a research interest that you hope to concentrate on in the doctoral program, and
   (b) why the achievement of a PhD in social work and a focus in this area is important to your professional development.

3. Public Goals: Please provide a brief statement of the ways in which your studies may potentially benefit society and advance knowledge in the field of social work.

4. Plans for Full Time Student Status: Please describe your plans for meeting the School of Social Work’s requirement of being a full time student on the downtown campus. During the first year of the PhD program, all students must complete a minimum of 9 credit hours in both the fall and spring semester. In the fall semester, for example, the courses required to obtain these 9 credit hours are all offered in the School of Social Work on the downtown campus.

5. Financial Plans: Please describe how you plan to finance your doctoral studies including:
   (a) the approximate percentage of your dependence on financial support,
   (b) your plan to continue full and/or part-time employment; and
   (c) your interest in being considered for a 20 hour a week Graduate Assistantship position.

6. Degree Completion Plan: Please describe an approximate plan for completing your PhD degree and the amount of time you plan on spending for your dissertation. Include a discussion of potential supports and barriers in completing your degree.