Guidelines for Personal Statement

The following questions pertain ONLY to those applying to the graduate program in Special Education.

This is to be submitted instead of the Statement of Goals and Objectives. Please answer the following questions as clearly and fully as you can. The length guideline is one page, double-spaced, per question. Note your personal statement will be scored on depth of discussion, authenticity, organization, and mechanics.

1. What are the characteristics, attitudes, values, and/or skills that you think will make you a good candidate for your professional role?

2. What have you already done professionally or personally of which you are proud? Please include chronological history of all professional teaching or administration experience, as well as academic honors or achievements you have earned.

3. Describe several personal and professional goals you would like to achieve in the next five years. Include in your description reasons why these goals are important to you.

4. Describe your purpose in seeking your master’s degree in special education. State which disability area/s you are interested in and why, if you are seeking teacher certification in your state, and if so, if you have contacted your state teacher licensing office to determine the requirements for licensure/certification in your state.