**Personal Statement Title**

Applicant Name

Application Due Date

**Personal Statement Title**

Instructions For Using This Template: Make sure to delete these instructions and edit the necessary fields (title, name, and date) prior to saving and uploading your personal statement. Typically in APA 7th edition student papers, you would start with an introduction after the title before getting to your first Level 1 heading. However, no introduction is needed for your personal statement so once these directions are deleted it will go straight from your title to your first Level 1 header. An abstract is also not required.

We have pre-built Level 1 headers (centered and bolded text) for each of the short answer responses. We encourage the use of Level 2 headers (left aligned and bolded text) when responding to the fourth prompt.

To comply with APA7 requirements, this template has been set up to be double-spaced on standard letter-sized paper (8.5x11) with 1” margins on all size. The current font in the template is set to 11-point Arial, but other acceptable fonts include11-point Calibri, 10-point Lucida Sans Unicode,12-point Times New Roman, 11-point Georgia, or 10-point Computer Modern.

# Past Experiences and Why Social Work

Here is where you will answer the first prompt (250-word limit): What professional and personal experiences have inspired you to pursue social work and social justice (versus another helping profession)? Please highlight any skills, professional work, volunteer work, and/or lived experiences that you see adding to the diversity of the MSU Denver MSW Program community and the field of social work. Please also include any experiences in which you’ve exercised leadership and/or responsibility.

# Values and Alignment

Here is where you will answer the second prompt (250-word limit): Describe your understanding of the social work profession, its core values, and code of ethics. How do your personal and professional values align with the social work values? Are there any potential value-based or ethical conflicts you might experience? If so, how do you plan to address or reconcile these conflicts?

# Strengths and Growth

Here is where you will answer the third prompt (250-word limit): If admitted to the MSW Program at MSU Denver, what would be the greatest strengths you bring with you to graduate study and the field of social work? What would be your greatest areas for growth?

# ADEI and Anti-Oppressive Practice

Here is where you will answer the fourth prompt (750-word limit): The 2022 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the accrediting body for the MSW Program at MSU Denver, charges programs to “integrate anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) approaches across the curriculum”. The Master of Social Work Program at MSU Denver is seeking students who are committed to ADEI work in their education and professional practice. To that end, this prompt has three parts that we are asking you to address – we encourage the use of Level 2 headers when answering each of these questions to help define your answers:

1. How do you define each of these terms in your own words: anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion? (250-word limit)
2. How do oppression and other issues related to ADEI impact the communities you intend to serve as a social worker? (250-word limit)
3. How have you worked to develop awareness of oppression and other issues related to ADEI and what are areas where you’d like to grow in your awareness during your time in the MSW Program if admitted? (250-word limit)

# References

All citation entries will be double spaced. After the first line of the entry, following lines are indented a half inch – this is known as a hanging indent, and has been pre-built into this template for your ease of use.

For assistance in building your citations, we recommend the [Purdue Online Writing Lab’s APA 7th Edition Citation Resources](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html).

References should be listed in alphabetical order. If you only have one reference, make sure to change the title to read “Reference”. There should be a reference entry for every source cited in your personal statement.