

Goal Statement Guidelines for Exchange Student Applications

The purpose of the goal statement is to determine if what you want to learn is a "match" with what the field site has to offer. The goal statement document is an opportunity for you to demonstrate professional writing. It should allow potential field instructors to view a "snapshot" of your interests, why you chose social work as a career, and the impact you want to make.

The goal statement must:

- Be written in a narrative format--it functions as a writing sample.
- Provide behaviorally specific examples.
- Be no longer than 2 pages, double spaced, and no smaller than 12 pt. font.
- This is a public document and is shared electronically with your field instructor and your potential colleagues, so please be cautious when sharing private information.
- Include all of the following information:
 - **Header**
 - Full name
 - Pronouns (optional)
 - Pathway (review the list of our [MSW Program Pathways](#) and choose one or two that best reflect your interests and educational/professional goals)
 - **Content**
 - Most professional social work jobs require a blend of work in [micro, mezzo, and macro areas](#). How do you envision this blend for your field placement?
 - As you consider your transition to becoming a professional social worker, select two skills from the list on the next page that you hope to develop. Tell us how these skills might be transferable to multiple social work settings.
 - Tell us how you will utilize supervision and how you will respond to critical feedback.
 - Identify two of your current strengths, and share your aspirations for your first job as a professional social worker.

Field Placement Skill Categories

- Advocacy
- Assessment & Evaluation
- Budgeting - Case Management
- Case Notes/Recording
- Committees/Task Force
- Community Development
- Community Outreach
- Community Relations
- Couples Treatment
- Crisis Intervention
- Data Collection
- Data Visualization
- Discharge Planning
- DSM Disorders
- Economic & Social Development
- Family Treatment
- Fundraising
- Grant Writing
- Group Treatment
- Individual Treatment
- Information & Referral
- Legislative Advocacy
- Mediation
- Needs Assessment
- Non-profit Management
- Policy Analysis & Development
- Prevention
- Program Administration
- Program Development
- Program Evaluation
- Provide Direct Services
- Report Writing/Recording
- Research & Analysis
- Social Media