



## **Personal/Professional Statement Instructions**

As part of the application process for admission to the Social Work major, each applicant is asked to compose a two to three page essay that addresses the following:

- 1) Why you want to be a Social Work major;
- 2) Current activities in which you are involved, such as classes, clubs, work, and/or volunteer experiences, which you believe are moving you closer to your career goal. Describe ways in which you are both giving and receiving benefits from your involvement; and
- 3) Describe your hopes and plans for your first entry-level position in your chosen career after receiving your degree from WKU.

The essay should demonstrate your ability to identify and integrate scholarly information by including at least one citation – paraphrase (preferred) or directly quoted material per APA guidelines. The essay should include a title and References page, use page numbers and 1” margins, and be double-spaced. Applicants who submit an essay that does not follow APA guidelines may be asked to re-submit.

(Guidelines for APA style, along with a sample APA paper, are available at [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#).)

Your essay will be evaluated on the following:

- Organization: essay begins with a brief introduction, followed by three major paragraphs related to 1-3 above, and ends with a brief summary and conclusion
- Organization of ideas within any given paragraph
- Grammar: Essay is grammatically correct and accurate
- Spelling: Essay is free of errors in spelling
- Essay follows APA style