

Guidelines for Writing the Personal Statement – UB School of Nursing Graduate Programs

The faculty of the School of Nursing has the responsibility of evaluating your application. An important component in your application “Your Personal Statement” tells the Admissions Committee why you are seeking advanced study in nursing. Use the outline that follows to complete your personal statement. (All items must be addressed.)

I. Advanced Study in Nursing as a Career Goal.

1. Why are you seeking professional education at this time?
2. What particular aspects of advanced study in nursing interest you most?
3. What contribution will you make to the School and your fellow students?
4. What are your career goals in nursing for the five years following graduation?

II. Experience as a Student

1. How do you expect your performance in graduate school to compare with performance as an undergraduate student?
2. Give reasons for any differences you may anticipate.
3. If you have ever received failing grades, been on probation, or been dismissed from or denied readmission to any college, explain. Be specific.

III. Work Experience

1. Describe your nursing experience in which you may have worked with an advanced practice nurse or (if a doctoral applicant) nurse researcher.
2. Give an example of a work related problem you experienced and how you were able to resolve it.

IV. Other Life Experience - each student is reviewed individually and is sometimes eligible to be nominated for fellowship or scholarship awards.

1. Describe your experience and participation in school and community activities.
2. Describe any unique aspects of your background that will contribute or enrich our graduate community. Please include any special circumstances you have had to overcome in order to pursue your education or achieve your goals to become a nurse.

V. Describe your methods for managing multiple tasks and time management.

VI. Additional comments

1. What information or experience influenced your choice in making an application to this school?
2. If you have been dismissed or asked to resign from a position as a result of an infraction, and/or charged or convicted of assault or felony, discuss each situation in detail, focusing on how you overcame it and the relevance to your becoming a nurse.
3. What else would you like the committee to know about your educational and career ambitions?