

Instructions for the Statement of Professional Objectives Writing Sample

You are asked to prepare a sample of writing that represents your ability to engage in clear writing and critical thinking. The writing sample is a Statement of Professional Objectives, consisting of a 2-3-page typewritten, double-spaced formal paper containing a statement of your professional goals in applying to the program and the educational experiences that have led to these goals.

Refer to a few dispositions (at least one, no more than three) described on the <u>mission website</u>. (Scroll down the website until you see "Student Goals and Performances, Expected in All Programs"). The paper will be evaluated for the compatibility of your objectives and strengths with the program aims.

Expectations for a Passing Writing Sample

Your paper should possess the following qualities: a clear focus that is maintained throughout, adequate support (explanation and examples) that appear in substantive body paragraphs consisting of appropriate transitions, your critical thinking and paragraph conclusions; effective concluding paragraphs and technical proficiency (grammar, spelling, proofreading and polish).

In short, your writing should be efficient and readable, making it possible for your audience to read straight through your writing without confusion. To meet these criteria, you should edit (or re-edit) and polish each part of your writing.

Formatting the Writing Sample

It should be typed and double-spaced with 1-inch margins and page numbers from the second page forward. Your submission needs the following heading:

Name

Student ID (optional)

Statement of Professional Objectives

Date (current or date of original preparation with latest revision date in parentheses)

For advising about appropriate content of your writing sample, call or email:

Dr. Beth Hartley

907-244-7807 eahartley@alaska.edu