



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW)

Clear and effective writing is essential for success in the MSSW Program. Your statement will help us evaluate your readiness for graduate study.

Instructions:

- Respond to all three prompts below
- Each response should be 300–500 words
- Include the word count at the end of each response
- Ensure your writing is clear, well-organized, and free of grammatical errors
- Submit all responses in a single document, using the corresponding headers for each prompt

To learn about the Code of Ethics and Core Values of the social work profession, please visit the [National Association of Social Workers \(NASW\)](https://www.nasw.org) website.

Prompts:

1. Understanding Social Work

Social work is a distinct profession defined by a commitment to society at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Use the [NASW Preamble](https://www.nasw.org/preamble) to explain your understanding of the social work profession.

2. Professional Alignment

Discuss how your employment and volunteer experiences align with the [NASW Code of Ethics](https://www.nasw.org/code-of-ethics).

3. Core Values Reflection

The [UT School of Social Work](https://www.utexas.edu/school-of-social-work) is guided by several core values, including ethics and integrity, excellence, creativity and critical thinking, advocacy, innovation, and embracing diverse perspectives. Please share your thoughts on what two or more of these values mean to you and how they relate to your desire to be a social worker.

Note: We use your upper-division GPA as a metric to evaluate your eligibility for admission. **Applicants whose upper-division GPA is lower than 3.0 are required to submit a Conditional Admission Statement along with their application.** Failure to submit the statement will result in an incomplete application. Once your application is received, we will send you an acknowledgment letter indicating if a Conditional Admission Statement is required and provide further details about what to include in that document at that time.