



Personal Essay Requirements 2007-08

Applications for admission to Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education and Counseling require one or more personal essays. Please carefully review each program's essay requirements and submit your typed essay(s) with your application for admission.

Counseling Psychology

All programs

Please address the following topics in your essay. Your essay should not exceed 500 words.

*What are the experiences that lead you to believe this is an appropriate career choice for you?
What are the values and concerns that motivate you to pursue professional training in this field?
What type of professional work do you hope to do?*

School Counseling

All programs

Please address the following topics in your essay. Your essay should not exceed one page in length.

Why are you pursuing a graduate degree in school counseling? What are the experiences that you believe make graduate study in this field appropriate for you? What are your highest hopes and greatest concerns about yourself as a student and as a future school counselor?

Teacher Education

Preservice Applicants

Please write four essays:

- In one or two pages, detail your goals for graduate study. What are the key questions or issues that have led you to pursue your education in this area? Describe the experiences that you believe make the profession of teaching appropriate for you.
- In one or two pages, compose an essay on a current issue or topic of interest in a subject area

you plan to teach. Explain how you would hope to interest students in this topic and what you would like them to come to understand.

- In one or two paragraphs, briefly describe any cross-cultural experiences that have enriched your professional life.
- In one or two paragraphs, describe any experience you have had with young people. If you are an Early Childhood/Elementary applicant, please also describe any classroom experience you have had.

Inservice Applicants (all programs)

Please write two essays:

- In one or two pages, detail your goals for graduate study. What are the key questions or issues that have led you to pursue your education in this area?
- In one or two pages, compose an essay on a current issue or topic of interest in a subject or endorsement area you currently teach or aspire to teach. Include your current perspectives and any questions you may want to address during your graduate work.

Educational Leadership

Educational Administration License Only Programs

Please write two essays:

- In 250-500 words, describe your leadership experience at the building or district level and its focus on programs and/or personnel.
- In 50 or fewer words, describe your personal philosophy of education.

Master of Education in Educational Administration Program

Please write an essay describing your philosophy of teaching or counseling, or your current position as it applies to school leadership. What have you learned about issues of leadership in your current role? What do you need to learn about leading school organizations? How will a master's degree

further your professional goals? Provide examples of projects or other materials that demonstrate your motivation and capacity for successful graduate study in educational administration.

Doctorate of Education in Leadership Program

Please write four essays:

- The Lewis & Clark doctoral program is designed to assist in the development of educational leaders with a commitment to social justice and equity. In three pages or fewer, share your understanding of those concepts. Include references to literature and research that has helped shape your perspective on leadership, social justice, and/or equity. Discuss what you have been engaged in and plan to engage in to make this a more just and equitable society. How will advanced study in educational leadership help you to realize these goals?
- In two pages or fewer, discuss an ethical dilemma you have dealt with professionally. What were your options? How did you resolve the dilemma and what did you learn from the experience? How did this experience help shape you as a leader?
- Explain what aspect of educational leadership or policy you plan on making the focus of your advanced study and dissertation research.
- Describe a significant personal or professional accomplishment that required hard work and perseverance. This might be an athletic achievement, something you built, an artistic accomplishment, or a success with a challenging academic situation, but you need not limit yourself to these categories. What made this accomplishment a source of pride? What challenges did you face and overcome to achieve this success? Please feel free to include with your application any physical evidence of this accomplishment you can share (e.g. a manuscript, portfolio, or video). Any such materials will be returned to you.