

## **MSEd Counseling Applicant Essay**

Thank you for your interest in our [Masters of Science in Education Counseling programs](#). If you believe you are ready to channel your compassion for others into a career in school or clinical counseling, our MSEd in Counseling can prepare you to empower diverse individuals, couples, families and groups to accomplish their mental health, wellness, education and professional goals. Our program of full-time and part-time cohort scheduling to prepare you with a variety of knowledge, skills, and intervention approaches to work with people in schools, hospitals, clinical centers, and various community counseling organizations.

The critical engagement required for you to organize, reprioritize, and balance professional the demands of this professional preparation program include leaning into vulnerability and approaching new and often ambiguous challenges.

As you have carefully considered your interests, determination, and capacities to pursue admissions consideration, respond to the following essay prompts using the writing guidelines:

### **Essay Prompts (5)**

1. Please share your career goals regarding why you want to become a professional counselor; including your personal experiences, interests, community engagement, and abilities that lead you to apply for a graduate program in counseling.
2. The current definition of counseling developed endorsed by the American Counseling Association: "Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals."  
How do you see your strengths and professional goals aligning with this definition of counseling?  
What are your areas of potential growth for attaining these goals?
3. What are your values (e.g., cultural, political, familial, social, professional, etc.) and how do you relate to and work with individuals and groups who have different values than your own?

4. What factors have led to your consideration of professional counseling as opposed to other helping professions (e.g., psychology, social work, etc.)?
5. Is there anything else that you would like for us to know which might be of help in the admission decision process?

### **Writing Guidelines**

- Provide critically reflective responses to the prompts as a single document, narrative essay format, without page breaks.
- For each writing prompt, provide 1 to 2-page responses per prompt.
- Text should be double-spaced, Times New Roman or Calibri, 12-point font with 1-inch page margins.
- Running header should appear on each page with your name and page numbers.
- Use these major headings for each question prompt, aligned-center, bold-font style within your response document:

**Career Goals**  
**Strengths and Growth Edges**  
**Navigating Values**  
**Emerging Counselor Identity**  
**Conclusion**

- Save and submit your essay response as a PDF file format document.
- Title the document with your name and “MSEd app essay”