Please describe your academic interests and the areas you would like to pursue in psychology. Discuss your academic background and research and field experiences, and explain how this psychology graduate degree will contribute to your career goals.

**Personal Statement (Social Work)**

All applicants for the MSW Degree are required to submit along with their application a personal statement. This statement should not exceed three pages, double-spaced, and a 12-point Time font.

The personal statement captures the core of the applicant’s story. G.P.A., standardized tests, and college entrance/readiness exams cannot capture important elements such as values and moral commitment that are necessary for professional practice. It allows the applicant’s personality and value set to shine through; it positions the applicant as a storyteller, detailing the events, key people, mistakes, and lessons learned that led to his /her decision to pursue the MSW degree. It demonstrates a compatibility between the core values of the profession and mission of Doha Institute, the MSW Program, and the personal values and moral
compass of the applicant; and it presents the applicant’s immediate and future social work goals. The personal statement also reflects the applicant’s degree of commitment to the profession, his / her critical thinking skills and maturity, the applicant’s writing and organizational skills, and areas of potential concern.

In writing a personal statement, applicant should discuss:

- Applicant’s understanding of the value of the social work profession;
- Applicant’s reasons for pursuing the MSW degree;
- Applicant’s life experience with social work profession, including paid and volunteer work that have led him/her to apply for the MSW degree;
- His / her interest in specific population group that are experiencing life challenges he /she would like to serve (e.g. families and children, youth, substance abuse, refugees and immigrant, and disaster victims; elderly, etc.);
- How an MSW degree will better prepare the prospective applicant to serve people as a professional social worker;
- Applicant’s strengths, limitations, and improvement plans;
- Applicant’s aspiration as a professional social worker, and his / her immediate and future goals after completing the MSW program.