



S T A T E M E N T O F P U R P O S E G U I D E L I N E S

## General

The College of Graduate Studies (CGS) requirement for a Statement of Purpose assists the Admissions Committee to understand and appreciate the drivers and motivation behind a candidate's application for admission to pursue a programme of study.

The Statement of Purpose should be written in clear, concise and informative language. The CGS Admissions Committee welcomes appropriate details and concrete examples in defining who you are, your professional and academic pursuits and relevant goals and objectives. Avoid generalities and clichés.

The candidate may define a main point for the Statement. Avoid the inclusion of material that does not support the main point.

## Format

Please format the statement professionally. It should be 1 ½ to 2 pages long, so please be concise. Please format using 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman 12 point-size font or Calibri 11 point-size font. Before you submit your Statement, ask someone whose opinion you value or a trusted colleague to read and comment on your draft. Try to incorporate any positive suggestions for change in order to revise the Statement. The CGS will accept that you have received advice and incorporated the same in the process; however, under no circumstances are you to submit in your own name the work of someone else.

## Content

Introduce yourself and your reasons for pursuing graduate study. Speak about any unique qualifications or interests. Briefly discuss your academic, professional, and community service engagements. You may wish to speak to the positive influences of someone significant (academic, professional, relational, or community-based). Describe, and provide examples of, personal determination and success drivers, practical demonstrations of initiative and creativity, and your problem-solving ability.

Describe any plans, or goals and objectives for the immediate period after you have successfully completed your degree. Define how the programme will assist you toward this end.

## Concluding Remarks

Please give the reader a sense of who you are in essence and why you will be successful in graduate school. Be succinct and sincere.

Thank you for your application; the CGS Team looks forward to assisting you in the achievement of your goals and objectives.

Please sign your Statement of Purpose; if your signature is not on the document your application will be considered provisional until it is signed.

