Your writing sample will be evaluated for writing style and your writing ability (e.g., grammar, spelling).

Writing Sample: Personal Statement

Please follow the directions carefully. Please put your name on each page of your statement. Email your completed writing sample to gseinfo@pdx.edu

Respond to the following questions: (typed, double-spaced and limited to two pages per question)

1. Based on your current knowledge of infant/toddler mental health, what theoretical/philosophical approaches make the most sense to you? Why?

2. As you reflect upon your life experience, what contributions do you bring and what challenges do you have in supporting the well-being of infants, toddlers, and their families?

3. Above is the Graduate School of Education Conceptual Framework that states our goals in preparing educational and counseling professionals. We do not expect you to have a lot of knowledge in these areas at this time; however, we do want you to address at least three of the goals within your personal statement. In your statement, based upon your personal experiences and using three of the concepts from the Conceptual Framework, explain how you have worked or advocated to:
   a. [Diversity and Inclusiveness] include infants, toddler, and families in a variety of settings and environments
   b. [Research Based Practices] use materials, techniques, and practices that are accepted in your professional field
   c. [Impact on Learning and Development] ensure that the persons with whom you work are successful, and that your efforts are beneficial (what evidence do you have that your efforts are successful?)
   d. [Evidence Informed Decision Making] use individual outcomes to help plan for future instruction or activities

4. How will the Graduate Certificate program enhance your work with children and families?