Master of Social Work
Admissions Essay Requirement

The essay affords Keuka College social work faculty the opportunity to gauge fit between a potential student and the MSW program. The ability to engage in and communicate critical thinking is essential to a successful MSW practitioner. Therefore, you will be required to submit an admission portfolio that demonstrates your intellectual capacity, written communication ability, creativity and reflective skills. An important component of this portfolio is the essay.

In a well-organized, thoughtful, and carefully prepared manner, please submit an essay of no more than 5 pages (typed and double-spaced) that addresses each of the points listed below.

I. Social Work as a Career Goal
- What influenced your decision to pursue a master's degree in social work?
- Why Keuka College's MSW program?
- What area(s) of the profession interest or concern you the most and why?
- Describe your professional social work goals and indicate what influenced these.

II. Work, Volunteer, and Educational History
- Describe how you have incorporated the core values of the social work profession into your human service experiences and interactions with others.
- Explain how you have managed multiple responsibilities in the past and how you plan to do so if accepted into this program.
- Discuss your prior academic, work and volunteer experience, including a description of your strengths and weaknesses. Please include any failing grades, deficiencies (including any social work course grades below a B+), probationary status, dismissals, or denied admissions along with what you have done to improve this.

III. Personal Assessment
- Provide an assessment of your own strengths and weaknesses.
- In what ways and with what resources do you foresee these areas as developing in a graduate program and as an MSW practitioner?
- What personal attributes equip you to work both in the social work profession and with diverse client systems?