



## 2027 CSUB MSW Writing Exam – Sample Prompts

These sample prompts are provided to help you prepare for the MSW Writing Exam. The prompts you receive at the time of your exam will be similar in type and format but will not be the same.

During the exam, you will be asked to respond to a set of prompts that assess your readiness for graduate-level study and the social work profession. Your response should be a well-organized, two-page essay (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font) with an introduction, thematic body paragraphs, and a conclusion. The primary focus should be on your academic background, professional experiences, and the qualities that demonstrate your preparation for graduate study in social work.

Your response will be evaluated based on clarity, organization, depth of reflection, and relevance to the field of social work.

In your essay, please address **all** the following:

1. Discuss the academic and/or professional experiences, skills, and attributes that have prepared you for success in graduate school and the social work profession.
2. Discuss your academic and/or professional experiences, skills, attributes, and values that align with the social work profession.
3. Articulate your career goals within the field of social work and how your academic and/or professional background supports those objectives.
4. Describe how you have demonstrated a commitment to social justice or social change in an academic, volunteer, or professional context.
5. Identify specific social work issues or populations that you are most interested in working with and explain why.
6. Explain why you believe the CSUB Department of Social Work is a strong fit for your educational and professional goals.