Essay Response Instructions

Applicants are required to submit two essay responses, the Statement of Purpose and the Personal History, according to the instructions below (current prompt information is located on the School of Nursing DNP-Family Nurse Practitioner and DNP-Post Master’s Admissions website at https://nursing.uci.edu/admissions).

Applicants should only use the information below when writing their Statement of Purpose and Personal History essays. Please note, UC Irvine Graduate Application contains sample prompt language, but when applying to the DNP-FNP or DNP-Post Master’s program, please only use the guidelines below.

Statement of Purpose

In the UCI Graduate Application “Statement of Purpose” section, please respond to the following prompt in 1200 words or less:

Nursing Background and Career Goals
Why have you chosen the DNP as a terminal degree? Please describe/discuss your nursing background and career goals that align with the DNP.

When answering this prompt, make sure to address the following:
• Specify outcomes you wish to gain from the DNP education.
• How will the DNP program at UCI help you reach your career goals?

Personal History

In the UCI Graduate Application “Personal History” section, please respond to the following prompt in 1200 words or less:

Coping with Challenge
Think back to a time that required you to demonstrate passion and perseverance to achieve a long-term goal. How were you able to achieve your goal despite the obstacles you encountered?

When reflecting on your previous experiences, examples that you may choose to address include, but are not limited to, the following:
• Were there times when personal, professional, and/or academic circumstances made you hesitant to pursue your aspirations?
• What people, resources, and/or knowledge helped you to work through these challenges?
• How has this experience shaped your perspective on Nursing?

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