

## Tips for Applying to the MSW Program at Bridgewater State College

Applications for Bridgewater State College's MSW Program are highly competitive and are evaluated on the following five categories:

- 1) Grade Point Average (GPA) minimum of 3.0;
- 2) Letters of reference;
- 3) Your response to the personal statement under *Instructions for Personal Essay*;
- 4) Your personal statement as an indicator of your writing skills; and
- 5) Related experience.

Please consider the following as you consider applying for our Program and filling out the MSW Program Admissions Application:

- 1) If you did not attain the required 3.0 GPA, we recommend that you enroll in at least two graduate courses and receive at least a letter grade of “B” to demonstrate your likelihood of success in a graduate level academic program.
- 2) We strongly encourage you to talk with your references and to get a copy of the letter they send, so that you know that your references addressed your strengths and positively addressed any weakness.
- 3) We strongly encourage you to obtain a letter from at least one of your previous professors who can speak to your academic ability to be successful at the graduate level.
- 4) Take your time and make sure that you address each point that is requested of you on your personal statement.
- 5) Ask an outside reader to proofread your statement for grammar, spelling, and language errors, as well as for content related to the personal statement questions. Remember, this personal statement is your only opportunity to provide the Admission Committee with a positive impression of who you are and of your commitment and desire to complete the MSW program.
- 6) If you are applying to two or more graduate programs, please remember that each program is somewhat different. You will want to respond to each MSW Program's individual requests, as not all programs ask the same questions.