

Hamline University Graduate School of Education

Article-Length Piece of Writing for EdD Admission

Purpose: Why write for admission?

We invite our applicants to display their knowledge of educational issues in a proactive and self-directed way. This short piece offers applicants an opportunity to synthesize their thoughts and beliefs about our field and carry them forward to an audience. Initially, the audience will consist of the admissions committee. Our assumption is that your ideas and recommendations about education will find a wider audience: colleagues, peers in the program, or in print and virtual publications. We intend to prepare educational leaders who can reach others with their ideas.

Rationale for assessment

This piece provides a form of assessment for admission to graduate study. Standardized assessments such as the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) measure the respondent's ability to take an exam in that medium. At Hamline University, we believe that approach to assessment and to determining a candidate's ability to succeed in doctoral study is limited,

Suggestions for the process

1. Work from materials you have already written. Researchers and other authors do this frequently as they rethink their own ideas with new ideas.
2. Choose text from the concluding chapter of your master's degree thesis or capstone project. Reflect on that text from your current perspective.
3. Write an essay about a contemporary educational issue. Link your thinking to one or more of the current published researchers in education or in another field.
4. Keep it simple. This is a short assignment, which limits the topic to one!

The admissions committee is interested in the following:

- Does the applicant express her or his ideas clearly?
- Will the applicant have the capacity to write and reflect as required by our program?
- Is the applicant familiar with contemporary issues in education?
- Does the applicant see herself or himself as a capable change agent and educational leader?