



Graduate School of Education

Personal Statement

In order to be admitted into a teaching course, applicants must demonstrate that they have the necessary **personal characteristics** to become successful educators. At the University of Western Australia, applicants for teaching courses must meet the Inherent Requirements. The Inherent Requirement Domains for an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) Professional Practice are documented in a pdf on the Admission requirements course webpage. Applicants must write a personal statement addressing the following two *Inherent Requirements (communication and relational capabilities; self-awareness and management) **plus** three additional criteria deemed by AITSL to be important to teaching (motivation to teach; willingness to learn; and organisational and planning skills). Your personal statement should be between 900 and 1200 words.

*Please note that the other Inherent Requirements will be assessed elsewhere in the course, and a *Fitness to Practice* self-assessment will be conducted by each pre-service teacher before being permitted to undertake professional practice.

1) Communication and relational capabilities

Provide evidence and examples to demonstrate that you have excellent oral and written communication skills in English, and that you have the ability to build and maintain respectful relationships with people from a range of backgrounds and age groups.

2) Self-awareness and self-management

Provide evidence and examples to show that you are self-aware (you know yourself and the impact you may have on others) and able to regulate your own emotions and behaviour and show resilience, even in stressful situations.

3) Motivation to teach

Explain why you want to be a teacher and what you think you can bring to the profession. Go beyond statements such as, "I love working with children/young people."

4) Willingness to learn (including ability to act on feedback)

Provide evidence and examples that demonstrate your willingness to learn, to question your attitudes and beliefs, and your ability to act on the feedback and advice given to you by others.

5) Organisational and planning skills

Provide evidence and examples that demonstrate that you have organisational skills and are able to make plans and execute them effectively.

6) Up to date discipline knowledge

In addition, if you are a secondary teaching applicant who completed your degree five or more years ago, you must also address the following in no longer than 250 words:

How have you kept up to date in the field in which you plan to work?

Declaration: *I declare that this personal statement is entirely my own work, and truthfully addresses the requested criteria. I understand that my enrolment may be cancelled and my academic record annotated accordingly if it becomes apparent that I was offered a place based on false or misleading information.*

Date: (DD/MM/YYYY) _____

Applicant Signature: _____