



GUIDELINES FOR WRITING THE ENTRANCE ESSAY FOR USAHS NURSING PROGRAMS

Your entrance essay, or statement of purpose, is an important element of your application. If you are a new BSN graduate, your essay should be a minimum of 500 words; if you're an experienced nurse, it should be up to 1000 words.

Your essay must include all of the following elements, not necessarily in this order:

1. Briefly summarize your nursing career path to date, including a brief description of your current position.
2. Describe why you are applying to USAHS for your graduate studies. State which program and role specialty you are applying for and why.
3. Describe your ideal nursing position, and detail how studying in your chosen program and role specialty would help you achieve this career goal.
4. Nursing is a demanding job—and graduate school is also a significant time commitment. How will you adjust your work and life responsibilities to ensure success? Which support systems will you enlist?
5. If there are any issues with your academic history (e.g., failed classes, withdrawals, incompletes, or any concerns that could surface on your nursing license check), please explain these for the admission committee.

Please do not include this numbered list in your essay, but use a paragraph structure. It's a good idea to get feedback from a writer friend and from nurse peers. Be sure your essay meets standards of professional writing, with correct punctuation and grammar. You may want to use a grammar checker.