

## **Instructions for Uploading Professional Statements to the ApplyYourself System**

Under the “Writing Sample” section/page of the ApplyYourself system you need to upload two documents:

### 1) Professional Statement

Please provide a statement that describes (a) how pursuing a doctoral degree would support your career goals in higher education, and (b) your areas of research interest in general, with examples of specific topics you would like to pursue in the program and in your career. Your response should not exceed 1000 words on typewritten, double-spaced pages using Arial 12 point font with one inch margins. Please include your name on your statement.

### 2) Additional Written Response to a Critical Issue

Please provide an additional written response that addresses the following:

- Identify a critical issue in your area of interest in the field of special education (e.g., sensory impairments, learning disabilities, early childhood special education, severe disabilities).
- Describe why the issue is important, citing appropriate publications in your field.
- Describe how your doctoral training might help you address this issue with regard to your training and research.

Your response should be 3-5 typewritten, double-spaced pages using Arial 12 point font and one inch margins. Please follow formatting guidelines outlined in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Edition). References may be included on an additional page; this will not be included in the 3-5 page limit count. Please include your name on each page of the statement.