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| **Personal Initiative Statement** |
| You are writing this personal initiative statement as part of your application for admission into the Special Education Graduate Program. You are required to be admitted to teacher education (SARTE) prior to enrollment. Please read the following information to support your understanding of “personal initiative.” Guiding questions are provided to support your writing of your personal initiative statement. As this will be evaluated as one of the criteria for your admission to the Special Education Graduate Program, please be sure your response is thoughtful. You will have between 1,500-2,000 words to write your statement, so be sure to organize your thoughts prior to writing your statement in a clear and concise manner.  |
| Personal Initiative (PI) has been described as a group of behaviors that an individual executes to self-start a series of actions that will allow him/her to reach goals and complete tasks while showing resiliency in the presence of barriers and setbacks. Personal Initiative is composed of 4 elements: 1) Self-starting: the individual sets goals, 2) Proactive: the individual has pursued goals, 3) Persistent: the individual does not give up easily, and 4) Pro-Company: the individual seeks activities/experiences that involve engagement with others. Purpose and Use: Your personal initiative statement is a very critical piece in the admission process as it provides us with an insightful view of who you are as an individual as well as a professional. To complete this requirement for admission to the graduate program, you will need to provide a written statement that describes your Personal Initiative. Remember to include in your statement the four elements of Personal Initiative described above. These questions may help guide your writing:* Which of your life experiences have been based on self-direction and goal setting?
* How have you carried through with your goals?
* What obstacles did you confront and how did you overcome these obstacles?
* Did you seek feedback from others when making your goals or following through with your goals? How about when you faced an obstacle?
* How have you shown persistence in achieving your goals?
* How have you engaged with others throughout your life and when attempting to achieve your goals?
* How have these experiences have prepared you for the profession of teaching?
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| Please write your personal initiative statement here: (Between 1,500- 2,000 words): |

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| **Personal Initiative Statement****Rubric** |
| **6** | **5** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| Demonstration of goal directed activities/experiences that reflect self-motivation, persistence and engagement with others. | Identifies how goal setting guided experiences.Reflects on how self-motivation supported persistence through overcoming barriers.Engages with others in activities/experiences. | Identifies experiences with connection to goals; persistence in overcoming barriers is not evident.Engages with others in activities/experiences. | Identifies experiences but they are not connected to goals and persistence in overcoming barriers is not evident.Engages with others in activities/experiences. | Describes experiences without reflecting on goal setting, persistence or engagement. | Statement does not address any components related to goal setting, persistence or engagement. |