

## SCI Counseling Applicant Essay

Thank you for your interest in our [School Counselor Institute program](#). If you believe you are ready to channel your compassion for others into a career in school counseling, and you have already received education in clinical-community mental health related degree program, our School Counselor Institute may prepare you to empower diverse students and school personnel to accomplish social, emotional, and educational wellness. Our SCI is a 22-week online primarily asynchronous program designed to help you transfer existing and develop new knowledge, skills, and intervention approaches to work with students and personnel in K-12 schools.

As you have carefully considered your interests, determination, and capacities to pursue admissions consideration, respond to the following essay prompts using the writing guidelines:

### Essay Prompts (5)

1. Please share your career goals regarding why you want to become a school counselor; including your personal experiences, interests, community engagement, and abilities that lead you to apply for our SCI program.
2. The current definition of counseling developed endorsed by the American Counseling Association: "Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals."  
How do your strengths and professional goals align with this definition of counseling?  
What are your areas of potential growth for attaining these goals?  
How do you foster multicultural curiosity and cultural-sensitivity in your counseling work?
3. What are your values (e.g., cultural, political, familial, social, professional, etc.) and how do you relate to and work with individuals and groups who have different values than your own?
4. Describe your counseling theory of change? How do you utilize your theory as part of your professional practice?

5. Is there anything else that you would like for us to know which might be of help in the admission decision process?

### **Writing Guidelines**

- Provide critically reflective responses to the prompts as a single document, narrative essay format, without page breaks.
- For each writing prompt, provide 1 to 2-page responses per prompt.
- Text should be double-spaced, Times New Roman or Calibri, 12-point font with 1-inch page margins.
- Running header should appear on each page with your name and page numbers.
- Use these major headings for each question prompt, aligned-center, bold-font style within your response document:

**Career Goals**

**Strengths and Growth Edges**

**Navigating Values**

**Counselor Identity**

**Conclusion**

- Save and submit your essay response as a PDF file format document.
- Title the document with your name and “SCI app essay”