

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

1. Statement of purpose (5-8 pages maximum):

Please describe your interests and commitment to the goals and curriculum of the ELPS Ph.D. program. It is recommended that you address your personal and academic background and your scholarly and related professional goals. You also could explain a specific research interest or a faculty member with whom you want to work. It is important that you thoroughly address your preferred area of specialization in the ELPS program and explain reasons why you would be a good fit (e.g., education policy, social and cultural studies of education, higher education administration, and educational leadership).

In addition, please address any life experiences that have shaped your decision to pursue a doctorate, along with personal experiences or achievements that would help you contribute to the ELPS program; to KU's mission for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusiveness; and to your professional aspirations once you complete the degree.

2. CV or resume:

Please include at a minimum

- Post-high school education.
- Relevant professional and/or scholarly experience.
- Research experience and other pertinent experience.
- Honors, other recognitions received.
- Conference presentations, publications, reports.

3. Writing samples:

These can include professional works (not necessarily academic papers), formal reports, and other pertinent work. The writing sample(s) should demonstrate your ability to think critically and/or analytically about an issue or a task. We are looking for documents of substantive quality and length, though there is no official minimum or maximum page limit.

4. Letters of Recommendation:

Letters of recommendations from three individuals who can speak directly to the applicant's academic skills and potential for rigorous, independent doctoral level work. Preferably the letters will be from current or former professors but can also include a letter from an immediate supervisor.