



UAF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (INDS) PhD PROGRAM Statement of Academic Goals Guidelines

To ensure that your documents remain together, please include your full name (First, Middle, Last), Date of Birth, and email address at the top of each page of your Statement of Goals. If you know your UAF ID number, please include it as well.

Write a statement of academic goals of no more than 1500 words addressing the following:

- Introduce yourself, your academic interests, and motivations for pursuing an INDS Ph.D.
- Summarize relevant experience (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, professional career) that has prepared you for the INDS PhD Program.
- Summarize the major points from your research prospectus and Graduate Study Plan and explain how the fields you are drawing from, the coursework you envision, and the composition of your proposed committee aligns with your research goals. Additionally, please explain why your interdisciplinary program does not fit into an existing UAF Ph.D. program.
- Provide any additional comments that you would like the review committee to consider. For example, mention strengths (e.g., strong record of publication) or weaknesses (e.g., low GRE or GPA) in your application.

Writing Tips:

The Council will look for self-motivation, potential as a graduate student and a rational, feasible and well-integrated academic program.

- Use concise language, a positive tone, and an active rather than passive voice.
- Provide concrete examples to illustrate your strengths.
- Address any weaknesses in your academic performance, and how you overcame them.
- Strive for a focused essay with a strong start. Everything you write should demonstrate your potential as a graduate student and show a well-conceived academic program.
- Review your document for spelling and grammar errors. Everyone makes mistakes but making them in an application is a red flag for reviewers.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Upload your statement of goals
at the appropriate link in your [Admissions Portal home page](#).