

Admissions Criteria for Entrance into the M.S.Ed. Childhood Education Degree Program Scoring Rubric for the Personal Statement*

Student Name (last name first): _____

Evaluator's Name _____ Date: _____

Description of assigned task: Prepare a typewritten statement demonstrating a commitment to and interest in childhood education, as well as an ability to write clearly and well. Respond to the following questions:

1. What are your reasons for wanting to work with students in an elementary school?
2. What are your reasons for selecting SUNY Cortland for graduate studies in general and this program in particular?
3. What are your long term goals and how do you see this program supporting you in achieving those goals?
4. What other information do you deem relevant for us to know about you?

Directions to the Evaluator: Read the personal statement and circle or highlight the most appropriate bulleted criteria. Then consider the text as a whole and assign a number score between 1 and 3.

Target = 3	Acceptable = 3	Unacceptable = 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper is clear, specific and focused. • The writer demonstrates specific knowledge about and deep commitment to the profession • The presentation of information is compelling and consistently engages the reader. • The writer demonstrates good skill in the area of writing conventions There are few errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper lacks specificity and may be sometimes unfocused but the ideas remain reasonably clear. • The writer demonstrates general knowledge about and identifiable commitment to the profession. • The presentation of information is predictable and inconsistently engages the reader. • The writer demonstrates reasonable control in the area of writing conventions. There are moderate errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper is unclear and or repetitious often reading like a collection of disconnected or random thoughts. • The writer demonstrates limited knowledge about and unclear commitment to the profession. • The presentation of information lacks direction and often confuses the reader. • The writer demonstrates a lack of skill in the area of writing conventions. There are multiple errors.

* Criteria adapted from Spandel & Culham (1994)

Evaluator's Score: _____