

Graduate Mission Statement Examples

Educational Assessment
Santa Clara University

Graduate Program Mission Statements

Every graduate program should have a mission statement that aligns with the mission of Santa Clara University and, as applicable, the mission of a school or division. The mission statement should define the purpose of the program, the audience the program is intended to serve, and the values of the academic program. The mission statement is a concise statement of the purpose, offerings, and stakeholders of the academic program. For graduate programs, the mission should clearly identify the value for **graduate students**.

Checklist for Mission Statement

A graduate program Mission Statement should answer the following questions:

- Was it drafted in collaboration with your stakeholders?
- Is the statement clear and concise?
- Is it distinctive and memorable?
- Does it clearly state the purpose of the program?
- Does it indicate the primary function or activities of the program?
- Does it indicate who the stakeholders are?
 - Are graduate students named as stakeholders?
- Does it support the mission of the department, college, and university?
- Does it reflect the graduate program's priorities and values?
- Is it publicly available?

Example Mission Statements

Each of the following components are important in creating a strong mission statement: program title, primary purpose, primary functions & activities, and program's stakeholders. Some programs also include additional clarifying statements, as indicated in the following examples.

Example, All degree programs in [Law](#) (this mission statement applies across all graduate degree programs in the school)

(from Loyola Marymount University)

The mission of Loyola Law School is legal education within the context of Loyola Marymount University and its goals as a Catholic Institution in the Jesuit and Marymount traditions. In carrying out this mission, it is the particular responsibility of Loyola Law School to:

- Achieve and maintain excellence in the instruction of law and promote legal scholarship and research in the context of academic freedom;
- Seek to educate men and women who will be leaders of both the legal profession and society, demonstrating in their practice of law and public service the highest standards of personal integrity, professional ethics and a deep concern for social justice;
- Act at all times as an institution in a manner consistent with those values.
- The Law School should be distinguished by its concern for social justice. It should continue its efforts to provide opportunities for legal education to the poor, the underprivileged, women and minorities. Loyola Law School has a long-standing commitment to diversity and adheres to and supports all legal requirements for non-discrimination and equal opportunity in all of its programs. As a Jesuit-related institution, the Law School recognizes its moral and ethical obligation to provide opportunities for a quality legal education to qualified applicants of diverse backgrounds, interests and professional objectives.

Example, MS in [Industrial & Systems Engineering](#)
(from San Jose State University)

The Mission of the Industrial and Systems Engineering program (ISE) is to serve society, with emphasis on the manufacturing and service sectors by:

- Providing undergraduate and graduate industrial and systems engineering education that prepares students to effectively apply engineering knowledge to the evaluation, design, and operation of complex industrial, service, and governmental systems comprised of people, equipment, and supplies through the application of modeling, measurement, and economic methods.
- Contributing to the enrichment of the profession and to the development of knowledge through faculty leadership, scholarship and professional practice.
- Meeting the needs of working professionals for continuing education in the fields of operations research, advanced statistical data analysis and modeling, ergonomics and human factors, supply chain engineering, lean six sigma and related topics.

The college's mission is consistent with the high-quality educational mission of the university's mission.

The department's mission is to serve society, with emphasis on manufacturing and service sectors, which is consistent with the university and college missions.

Example, degree programs in the [School of Business](#) (this mission statement applies across all graduate degree programs in the school)
(from Fordham University)

The mission of the Gabelli School of Business is to inspire and empower positive global change, developing students into compassionate business leaders and supporting faculty and students in the ongoing generation of new knowledge.

Example, MA, [Counseling Psychology](#)
(from University of Hawaii, Hilo)

The mission of the Master of Arts Program in Counseling Psychology (Specialization: Clinical Mental Health Counseling) is to prepare students to help meet the mental health service needs of the diverse and multicultural populations in Hawai'i and beyond. The program is designed to train students to become knowledgeable, skillful, ethical, and reflective mental health counselors, and to serve as a foundation for students interested in pursuing advanced graduate studies. The program assigns a high priority to meeting the educational needs of its students and is based on a scientist-practitioner model, with an emphasis on empirical research and evidence-based practices.