

## Doctorate of Health Informatics (DHI) Goal Statement Instructions

Please address all of the items in one document and with the title “**Last Name\_First Name DHIGoalStatement.pdf**”. Be sure to number your responses for clarity. Submit your goal statement as a PDF document to your DHI application form via the online application portal.

The goal statement can be crucial in helping us understand our applicants better and determine how well our program matches up with each applicant and their expectations. This document will be reviewed by our admissions committee not only as a source of information but also as an example of your writing ability. It is important to be as specific as possible and focus on your professional goals and how you envision these goals can be achieved through study at McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics.

Please make sure your goal statement addresses the following bullet points:

1. Provide a brief summary (**250 words or less**) of your background in all fields relevant to health informatics.
2. Provide a brief summary (**250 words or less**) of any management or executive level healthcare experience.
3. In **500 words or less**, please state your short and long-term career objectives, including specific information regarding short-term objectives. Include how the opportunities provided by McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics and the DHI program will assist you in achieving those objectives.
4. Describe a situation where you were working in a team and experienced significant conflict. Which specific team building, conflict resolution and problem-solving skills did you utilize in the situation? (**250 words or less**)
5. It is usual to encounter significant challenges and setbacks during doctoral degree studies. How will you overcome barriers to your success? What skills do you have now or need to develop for success with your project? (**250 words or less**)
6. Using the SMART framework (Specific topic, Measurable results, Actionable intervention, Reasonableness of the project and Timeliness) please write a goal statement for your proposed project. In **700 words or less**, elaborate on these specific areas you must address for your proposed DHI Translational Project. If you have not determined one element, give your preliminary thoughts on the area. At this stage the proposed topic will be in draft form and can be improved as your course work progresses.
  - **Introduction**  
What is the organizational problem that needs a remedy? What is the evidence you have found that the problem needs to be solved? What is the background for

this project? Why is it important? Is there a financial benefit to this project and how will that be captured? Here is where you would specify the **Specific Topic**.

- **Evidence-Based Practice Review**

What does the current literature (within the last five years) say about your problem? Compare and contrast what you are planning to do and the organization in which you are planning to do it with what has already been done. This is where the **Reasonableness of the project and the Timeliness** would be reflected.

- **Methods**

What planned methods will you use to solve the organizational problem? What resources will you need? Have you explored what resources will be available to you in your organization? Here is where you discuss the **Measurable Results and the Actionable Intervention**. You can also how you might calculate a Return on Investment.