

***Master of Social Work (MSW) Program***  
***School of Social Work***  
***College of Health and Public Affairs***

**Admissions Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. What GPA is required?** A competitive GPA is required for admission to the MSW program. Advanced standing: The *minimum* qualifying GPA for the Advanced Standing track is a 3.3 GPA in the last 60 credits. However, because this is a competitive program, a GPA of 3.3 does not guarantee admission. Full-time/Part-time: The *minimum* qualifying GPA for the full-time/part-time tracks is a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 credits. However, because this is a competitive program, a GPA of 3.0 does not guarantee admission.
- 2. Do I need to take the GRE?** No, we do not require the GRE for admission into the MSW program.
- 3. Does it matter what my Bachelor's degree is in?** Applicants to the MSW Full-time and Part-time program tracks can have a bachelor's degree in any discipline as long as they meet the prerequisite course requirements. Applicants to the Advanced Standing program track must have received a BSW degree from a CSWE accredited program within the last six years.
- 4. If I am missing a prerequisite course, can I still be considered for the MSW program?** Yes, as long as you have at least four of the six required prerequisite courses completed by the application deadline with proof by transcript. In other words, applicants who have submitted a "complete" application by the application deadline will be reviewed, and possibly admitted, if the applicant has no more than two outstanding prerequisite courses to complete.
- 5. How can I find out if some of my courses will be accepted for the prerequisite requirements?** Go to the current Graduate Catalog (see "Navigating... #1 at the beginning of this document for the website address). Find the "Contact INFO/Graduate Program" on the right side of the webpage and send us an email to request approval. Include the course title and course description and we will let you know if the class (or classes) will be accepted toward any of the required prerequisites.
- 6. Can I complete missing prerequisites after enrolling in the graduate program?** Yes, if admitted, you may complete up to two prerequisite courses before your clinical year. *We highly recommend that you complete these courses before you begin the MSW program since the course load is heavy and adding classes could be overwhelming for many students.*
- 7. Does it matter if I take the prerequisite courses at a community college or a four-year institution?** You can complete the prerequisite courses at any accredited institution, but you must have the official transcripts sent to the College of Graduate Studies once the course is completed.

- 8. Can I work while in the MSW program?** Graduate social work education is both difficult and time consuming; a typical full-time student's week includes twelve (12) hours in the classroom, twenty-four (24) in outside preparation for 23 classes (readings, etc.), and approximately fifteen (15) hours of internship. Outside employment adds to an already demanding workload. *The faculty caution students in seeking or maintaining outside employment.*
- 9. Does the School offer night/weekend field placements?** *The School of Social Work is under no obligation to provide such placements.* Students must complete at least 50% of their field hours during the agency's normal business hours. Evening (after 5pm) and weekend placements are extremely limited. Consequently, field placements cannot be guaranteed to students who require evening and weekend placements.
- 10. How do I upload my Letters of Recommendation?** Once you get into the online application, the process for the Letters of Recommendation should become clear. Find the link in the online application to enter the names and email addresses of your recommenders. The College of Graduate Studies (CGS) will email your recommenders with an attached rating form and a link where a letter can be uploaded. Your recommenders can then send their rating form and letter directly back to the CGS electronically.
- 11. Can I send my application materials directly to the School of Social Work?** No, all materials must be submitted to the College of Graduate Studies through the online application. Please do not send any application documents to the School of Social Work. *We recommend that you submit your application and fee first before submitting any supporting documents (transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.).*
- 12. What does the priority deadline mean?** The Graduate Catalog lists a Fall Priority deadline in the Application Deadlines table which refers to students who wish to be considered for university fellowships or assistantships. The School of Social Work does not currently offer fellowships or assistantships. The Fall Priority deadline has nothing to do with "priority" or "early" decisions.