Admission Requirements For MSW Candidates

The MSW program has admission criteria and procedures that reflect its own goals and objectives, as well as USU School of Graduate Studies (SGS) admission requirements.

USU SGS Requirements

• A Bachelor's degree that will be completed before matriculation in the degree program.
• A 3.0 or higher grade point average for the most recent 60 semester hour or 90 quarter hour credits.
• A score or sub-scores at or above the 40th percentile on the appropriate admissions test. The MSW program accepts the Miller’s Analogy Test (MAT) or the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

MSW Program Requirements

• Three satisfactory letters of recommendation.
• A personal statement.
• At least one introductory social or behavioral science course and a research methods or statistics course.
• A minimum of 21 semester hours of social or behavioral sciences is expected; students deficient in this area will need to be highly qualified in other areas to be considered for admission.
• A 4-year baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.

Additional Criteria for Advanced Standing

• A BSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program earned within the previous 10 years. (Exceptions on a case-by-case basis)
• B or higher grades in each undergraduate SW course completed.
• A cumulative Social Work GPA of 3.3 or higher.

Social Work Program

The mission of the MSW program is to serve the public by preparing its graduates as professionals in advanced generalist practice and to equip them with the skills necessary for leadership roles within the Social Work profession.

The mission of Utah State University’s MSW program is consistent with the intent of CSWE Educational Policy standards regarding the purpose and structure of social work education and with the University’s mission and vision (provided directly below).

Career Opportunities

Social workers have opportunities to practice with diverse populations in a wide variety of public and private agency settings including child welfare, youth services, mental health, criminal justice, hospitals, etc. The job market for social workers is expanding, both locally and nationally.
MSW Part-time Program Sequence

Spring Semester Year 1
- SW 6590 Advanced Standing Seminar I: SW Generalist Practice; SW Theories & Methods (3 credits)
- SW 6595 Advanced Standing Seminar II: SW Generalist Practice; SW Research & Policy (3 credits)

Summer Semester Year 1
- SW 6650 Research Methods II (3 credits)
- SW 6700 Advanced Generalist Practice I (3 credits)

Fall Semester Year 1
- SW 6750 Advanced Generalist Practice II (3 credits)
- SW 6900 Supervised Advanced Practicum III (6 credits)

Spring Semester Year 1.5
- SW 6600 Policy and Administration (3 credits)
- SW 6950 Supervised Practicum IV (6 credits)

Summer Semester Year 1.5
- SW 6800 Social Work Law & Ethics (3 credits)
- SW 6850 Social Work & Psychopharmacology (3 credits)

Optional Summer Year 1.5
- SW 6975 Block Advanced Supervised Practicum (12 credits)
  For those not in practicum during the academic year.

Field Practicum Admission Requirements

Only MSW students who have met the specified criteria for field education are admitted to the advanced field practicum, including successful completion of a foundation practicum while a BSW, and a GPA of 3.0 or better (B average) for the entire foundation curriculum.

Required Practicum Hours – Advanced Standing MSW
300 in agency hours + 24 integrative seminar hours = 524 hours

Code of Conduct

During academic and field training, students are required to abide by the Code of Ethics and standards of conduct specified by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the Utah State Board of Social Work Examiners. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the Social Work program. A more complete discussion of Social Work program policies can be found at: https://socialwork.usu.edu/files/usu-student-standards-of-conduct/USU-Student-Standards-of-Conduct.pdf

Licensure

In the State of Utah, graduates with a Master’s degree in Social Work are eligible to be licensed as certified social workers (CSW) upon graduation and are also eligible to begin working toward clinical licensure (LCSW). Students may obtain further information on licensure from:

Department of Commerce
Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing
160 East 300 South
PO Box 146741
Salt Lake City UT 84114-6741
Tel. (801) 530-6628 Toll-Free in Utah (866) 275-3675
Fax (801) 530-6511
http://www.dopl.utah.gov

Social Work Faculty Contact Information

Dr. Terry Peak, Social Work Program Director  terry.peak@usu.edu
Dr. Susan Egbert, RC MSW Program Coordinator  susan.egbert@usu.edu
Dr. Diane C-Graham, Practicum Director  diane.calloway-graham@usu.edu
Professor Sean Camp, Tooele Campus  sean.camp@usu.edu
Professor CJ Sorensen, Brigham City Campus  carl.sorensen@usu.edu
Professor Jenifer Evers, Moab/Blanding Center  jennifer.evers@usu.edu
Professor Jan Thornton, USU Eastern, Price  jan.thornton@usu.edu
Professor Shannon Browne, Logan Campus  shannon.browne@usu.edu
Professor Moises Diaz, Logan Campus  moises.diaz@usu.edu
Dr. Vonda Jump, Brigham City Campus  vonda.jump@usu.edu
Dr. Jessica Lucero, Logan MSW Coordinator  jessica.lucero@usu.edu
Dr. Jennifer Roark, Logan Campus  jennifer.roark@usu.edu
Dr. Derrick Tollefson, SSWA Department Head  derrick.tollefson@usu.edu
Social Work Office
MSW Webpage  http://socialwork.usu.edu

Materials for Persons with Disabilities

This requirement sheet is available in digital format, recordings, or large print upon request to the USU Disability Resource Center.

Changing from Full-time to Part-time Status or Changing Coursework Sites

Students are NOT permitted to change their status from full-time to part-time or part-time to full-time except in rare circumstances. Should a student desire to change his/her status, a written request that explains the reason(s) for doing so must be submitted to the MSW Program Coordinator at least 3 months prior to the beginning of the semester in which the change would take effect. Within three weeks of receiving the request, the MSW Coordinator will, after consulting with the Program Director and the student’s advisor, decide whether to grant it.

Students are expected to take all coursework at the program site to which they were admitted and are not permitted to change program sites (e.g., Brigham City to Tooele, etc.) except in rare circumstances. Should a student desire to change program sites, a written request that explains the reason(s) for doing so must be submitted to the MSW Program Coordinator at least 3 months prior to the beginning of the semester in which the change would take effect. Within three weeks of receiving the request, the MSW Coordinator will, after consulting with the Program Director and the student’s advisor, decide whether to grant it.

Social Work Student Organizations

The Social Work Program recognizes the importance of students having opportunities to learn and socialize outside of the classroom. Students are encouraged to become involved with the Social Work Student Association (SSWA), as well as the USU MSW Student Association (USU MSWSA).

Social Work Outcomes

Utah State University Social Work program outcomes are available for review at:
http://socialwork.usu.edu/about/assessment

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