Social Work, B.A.

Admission

The School of Social Work endeavors to maintain a heterogeneous student body by enrolling students who represent diverse backgrounds and cultural perspectives.

A limited number of students are admitted to the major each year. The application deadline is February 15. Admission to the undergraduate program in social work requires:

- completion of SSW:1022 Social Justice and Social Welfare in the United States with a grade of C or higher during the sophomore year;
- a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 2.50 (exceptions may be made for persons who do not meet the grade-point average requirement if they are strong candidates on the basis of other criteria); and
- completion of application forms and statement.

Students should complete SSW:1022 in their first year or in fall of their sophomore year and apply to the major during their sophomore year. Students who apply during their junior year and are admitted must expect to complete an additional summer session, or more, in order to fulfill the requirements of the major.

All of the items above are required for transfer students, except that substitution of SSW:1022 is permitted with a grade of C or higher in a course approved by the department, such as introduction to social work or introduction to human services. Students who have completed the equivalent of introduction to social work at another institution also must submit a completed recommendation form and transcripts. Recommendations and letters of reference will otherwise not be accepted.

The School of Social Work criteria for selective admission for a B.A. in social work is detailed in the “B.A. Social Work Admission Policies and Application Process” on the school's Admissions Process web page.

Meeting the admission requirements above does not guarantee admission. Admission often is limited by available instructional resources and opportunities for field placement. The school does not grant academic credit for life experience or previous work experience.

For more information about admission policies, contact the program administrator at the School of Social Work.

Social Work Interest

Students who are interested in applying to the social work major may declare a social work interest at any time after they enroll at the University and before they earn more than 72 s.h. of credit, and preferably while they still will have time to enter and complete the major in a total of four years of study. Students may not declare a social work interest after they have earned 72 s.h., even if they already have declared another major.

Declaration of a social work interest qualifies students with at least sophomore standing to be advised by a senior academic advisor assigned to social work interest students. Declaration allows students to participate in the Social Work Student Association and other social work activities, but does not allow them to register for required courses in the major. They may take electives in the social work department prior to formal admission to the major.

Students may continue their social work interest standing until they are admitted to the major or until they have earned more than 72 s.h. of credit.