



School of Graduate Studies and Research

# Master of Social Work

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). MSW graduates are prepared to work in a wide range of practice settings, including private practice, family based agencies, mental health care agencies, addiction treatment centers, schools, medical care facilities, psychiatric facilities, rehabilitation facilities, hospitals, correctional facilities, veteran's agencies, foster care and adoption agencies, nursing homes, senior centers, and in community practice and policy settings.

Social work is one profession with countless ways to help. Social workers work with clients who face challenges such as domestic violence, mental health problems, substance abuse, chronic or catastrophic illnesses, disabilities, adoption, divorce, loss of loved ones and other challenges. Social workers are employed as individual, family, and group therapists, adoption facilitators, community organizers, case managers, patient advocates, directors of nonprofit agencies, and disaster relief workers.

Trends suggest that the demand for the social work professional will grow dramatically over the next decade. In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)) reported that "Employment for social workers is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations." Upon completion of the MSW program, graduates are eligible to sit for state licensure examinations and pursue additional credentials to become licensed social work practitioners.

Applicants should have a commitment to a career in social work and serving those who are vulnerable and who face multiple challenges. Applicants must also possess the interpersonal qualities to work with a multicultural and diverse population including differences in gender, age, physical or mental abilities, social class, various races/ethnicities, economic status or sexual orientation.

**Admission Requirements and Procedures:** Visit the [Graduate School webpage](#) and click the "Apply" link on the left side of the screen. Begin by creating an account on CollegeNET by clicking the "account" link on the Apply page. CollegeNET is a self-managed application system. It will allow you to submit admission materials, check the status of your application, and view your decision letter using this account. If you have issues with your CollegeNET account, consult the CollegeNET help desk by submitting a Help Request Form or email [help@collegenet.com](mailto:help@collegenet.com).

Individuals seeking admission as degree students in this program must comply with the general admission requirements for graduate students at Edinboro University and with the following specific admission requirements for this program:

1. Complete the online application.
2. Pay an application fee of \$30.
3. Provide an official transcript verifying an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. The transcript should include:
  - One course evidencing significant content in human biology or human anatomy & physiology (this can be completed during the first year of the MSW Program if not taken during undergraduate studies).
  - A minimum of 21 semester hours of credit (or equivalent) distributed within a liberal arts curriculum in humanities, mathematics, physical and biological sciences, social and behavioral sciences, and fine arts.
4. Eligibility for the Advanced Standing One Year Program requires a completed baccalaureate degree in social work received within the last five years from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education in addition to the above criteria.
5. Applicants to the Regular Two Year Program must have a minimum GPA of 2.8. Those with an overall GPA of less than 2.80 must produce scores from the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the general aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Required scores are related to the applicant's GPA level.
6. Applicants to the Advanced Standing One Year Program must have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
7. All applicants must supply two letters of reference from individuals who know you in a professional or educational setting.
  - References should indicate readiness for graduate study and/or readiness for advanced social work practice.
  - Applicants to the Advanced Standing One Year Program should submit references from their undergraduate field coordinator or faculty field liaison and their field supervisor. These references should speak to one's performance in the social work field and in social work courses.
8. All applicants must provide a professional resume.
9. All applicants must submit a personal statement. This statement is considered a writing sample and is reviewed as part of your application for content and writing quality. Your statement should be 3-4 pages, typed and double-spaced in correct APA format. The purpose of this statement is to obtain a clear understanding of your background and should include content about:
  - Why you have chosen to enter the social work profession.
  - Your ability to value the perspectives of diverse populations.
  - How your academic, professional, personal, and volunteer experiences have prepared you for graduate studies in social work.
  - Your motivation to apply to the MSW Program at Edinboro University.

An advance tuition deposit of \$150 shall be paid by all new students in the MSW program. This deposit is required within two weeks of an offer of admission to the Graduate School. This student deposit is a guarantee of the intention of the applicant to register at the University for the term indicated on the admissions letter. Upon receipt, the University will credit the \$150 deposit to the student's account. Applicants who subsequently cancel their application or fail to register shall forfeit their advance deposit; there will be no full or partial refunds.

**The priority deadline for application to the Regular program is July 1<sup>st</sup> for fall and November 15<sup>th</sup> for spring. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space-available basis. Students wishing to enter the campus-based program must begin in the fall. Online students can begin in either fall or spring semesters.**

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## Curriculum

The program prepares student for advanced social work practice with a specialized focus on family centered trauma-informed approaches providing services at all system levels.

**Regular Two Year Program.** The Master of Social Work degree requires a minimum of 60 semester hours of professional training and a minimum of 900 clock hours of supervised internship. The curriculum is divided into two levels, the foundation year and the concentration year.

**Advanced Standing One Year Program.** Admission to Advanced Standing is competitive. The maximum number of courses eligible for waiver is nine (9); based on this, Advanced Standing students are exempt from most Foundation Year courses. Course credits waived is dependent on both equivalency to courses in Edinboro University's MSW program and having earned grades of B or better. Course syllabi may be requested. No credit will be given for life or work experience or by examination. All students admitted to the Advanced Standing program begin in the summer semester and are required to complete SOWK 640 in addition to any Foundation Year courses not waived.

### I. Foundation Year

- SOWK 600 HBSE I
- SOWK 602 HBSE II
- SOWK 604 Social Welfare, Social Policy, & Social Work
- SOWK 608 Social Work Research I
- SOWK 609 Social Work Research II
- SOWK 612 Social Work Practice I
- SOWK 613 Social Work Practice II
- SOWK 622 Field Education Internship I\*
- SOWK 623 Field Education Internship II\*
- SOWK 640 Human Diversity

### II. Concentration Year

- SOWK 706 Trauma-Informed Policy
- SOWK 717 Social Work Practice with Families I
- SOWK 719 Social Work Practice with Families II
- SOWK 722 Field Education Internship III \*
- SOWK 723 Field Education Internship IV\*
- SOWK 742 Mental Health Practice in Social Work
- SOWK 743 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug (ATOD) Interventions with Families
- SOWK 744 Administration and Supervision
- SOWK 795 Trauma Theory and Treatment
- SOWK 796 Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment: Theory and Intervention

\*All internship courses, whether in an online or campus-based program, will be charged at the on-campus rate.

## Degree Requirements:

Students must maintain a cumulative quality point average of 3.00 or better to remain in good standing in the program. A maximum of six semester hours of 'C' and 'C+' grades will be accepted toward the MSW degree. Grades below a C are not accepted toward the MSW degree. Only one 'C' or 'C+' grade will be accepted for Field Education Internship courses (SOWK 622, 623, 722 or 723).

Students are expected to comply with the Code of Ethics for the National Association of Social Workers and to demonstrate appropriate professional behavior. Failure to do so may result in termination from the program.

Please see <https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp>

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**For More Information:** If you have questions about the application process, please contact Edinboro University's School of Graduate Studies at [gradstudies@edinboro.edu](mailto:gradstudies@edinboro.edu) or at (814)732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890. For questions specific to the Master of Social Work, please contact Dr. Rine at (814) 732-2013 ([crine@edinboro.edu](mailto:crine@edinboro.edu)).

**Office for Students with Disabilities:** For information or assistance regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with a disability, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), at (814) 732-2462. For additional information, visit the [OSD web page](#).

**Graduate Assistantships:** [Graduate Assistantships](#) are available for campus based students only. They are awarded on a competitive basis. Admission applications must be completed by February 15<sup>th</sup> to be considered for an assistantship. Assistantships provide a partial waiver of tuition and a stipend, as well as an opportunity to gain experience in research and professional activities. Additional information about assistantships is available through the School of Graduate Studies and Research, (814)732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890.

**Financial Aid Considerations:** An academic year consists of fall, spring, summer, and winter. Graduate students taking graduate level courses may receive up to \$20,500 in the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. Most students will use their Stafford loans during the 9 month period (Fall and Spring). **Students will want to be mindful of their financial aid to allow for funding for 12 months if planning on enrolling during the Summer and/or Winter terms.** Students will have an option to apply for Graduate Plus loan or private loans if other funding has been exhausted. For more specific information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (888) 611-2680 or [finaid@edinboro.edu](mailto:finaid@edinboro.edu).

**Employer Reimbursement:** Non-traditional students who are working and taking classes on a part-time basis may have employer-paid education benefits. The purpose of the [employer tuition reimbursement agreement](#) is to allow employees who receive reimbursement to defer payment of their tuition and fees until after grades are available at the end of the semester. Edinboro University accepts employer benefit plans through arrangements with the Bursar's Office by completing the enclosed [employer tuition reimbursement agreement](#).

**Veterans' Education Benefits:** Information and printable forms regarding **Veterans' Education Benefits** and the **Montgomery GI Bill** are available at the Department of Veterans Affairs website, <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>. After the Department of Veterans Affairs approves a student's eligibility, and after the school certifies the student's enrollment, benefits are paid directly to the student after the end of each month.

*Edinboro University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity education institution and employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and disability in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504, and the ADA. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Office of Human Resources and Faculty Relations, Reeder Hall, (814-732-2810) or the Office of Social Equity (814-732-2167), 219 Meadville Street, Edinboro, PA 16444.*

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