



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

Master of Social Work Two-Year & Three-Year Programs

Final Submission
Deadline for the
Application is

February 1

MISSION STATEMENT The Master of Social Work Program at California State University, Stanislaus prepares social workers to advance social justice. This education is committed to social change based on an analysis of social, political and economic structures and their impact. This teaching and learning environment enables faculty, students and graduates to collaborate with others to transform the conditions which contribute to privilege and oppression. Graduates are prepared to use an advanced integrative practice approach to work with individuals, families and communities to promote personal and collective liberation.

Degree Requirements

The course of study is designed to educate and prepare social work practitioners to work in a variety of roles within public and private social service systems. Students will be prepared to use traditional and nontraditional intervention methods to promote well-being, personal growth, and social justice with diverse multicultural populations.

The curriculum emphasizes social work practice in the public social services, health, mental health, corrections and schools.

Graduates are prepared to practice, with sensitivity and competence, with economically and culturally diverse populations. Students graduate with advanced analytic and practice skills sufficient for independent level of practice.

The Master of Social Work degree is a 60-unit program requiring all students to complete a sequence of foundation courses in social work followed by advanced social work courses in the practice concentration. The program requires all students to complete foundation courses in social work practice, policy and services, research, human behavior and the social environment, and the field practicum. The advanced curriculum centers on integrative practice. Electives in social work practice in mental health, child welfare, corrections, and aging are available.

The MSW degree and two years of supervised clinical practice qualify a social worker to take the state Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) examination.

No academic credit is given for previous life experience or work experience.

Field Practicum Requirements

Field instruction is arranged on a concurrent model. Students are required to complete approximately 1000 hours of internship (500 per academic year), which includes a regularly scheduled seminar. Students are placed in a variety of social service agencies approved by the MSW Program. Students can expect to be in one agency placement for the first year (typically 2 days per week) and move to another practicum setting the following year. All students are under the supervision of an MSW field instructor.

MSW Program - Cohort Admission Schedule

Students are admitted to either a 2 or 3-year program in the Fall semester only.

Three-Year Program

The three-year program allows students to complete the degree work in three years rather than two. In the first semester, students take thirteen units. Thereafter, students take an average of 9 - 12 units per semester. Most classes for the three-year program are scheduled in the early evening. The field practicum requirements are similar to those for the full-time program.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA: Admission to the MSW program is based on meeting the general University requirements, plus an evaluation of the applicant's potential for advanced practice in the profession of social work. The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

***You may only apply to one of the two MSW programs - Stateside or Hybrid. Stateside offers a 2-year and 3-year option in Turlock, and a 3-year option in Stockton. Hybrid is offered through Univ. Extended Education in Stockton.**

Non-Discrimination Policy: The CSU Stanislaus MSW Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, physical disability, and sexual orientation.



MSW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You may only apply for one program option: **2-year Turlock campus, 3-year Turlock campus, 3-year Stockton campus, or 2-year Hybrid Stockton campus**

- Complete University / Graduate School application requirements—APPLY online via calstate.edu/apply (see *University Graduate School Eligibility* below). You will be applying to the program through CalStateApply. Hard copies of the department application will NOT be accepted.
- Autobiographical Statement.
- Criminal History Statement (required later in the admissions process if selected for admission or waitlist position).
- Resume or vita.
- Three academic and/or professional references from individuals who can address qualifications for graduate study in social work, scholastic readiness, and academic proficiency. Collateral contacts (e.g., multi-disciplinary team members or credentialed community partners) and those who have evaluated your job performance (i.e., manager, supervisor, executive director, etc.) constitute professional references.
 - GPA of 2.5 required; 3.0 in the last 60 units preferred.
 - Liberal arts background demonstrated by having met the CSU undergraduate general education requirements or a comparable course of study.
 - Academic background including instruction in the behavioral and biological sciences related to the human condition.
 - Voluntary and/or paid experience in human services.

Autobiographical Statement

This autobiographical statement should reflect your experience in light of the MSW Program mission statement, should be type-written (1200-1500 words), and should enable the Admissions Committee to know something of you as a person, your writing ability, your understanding of social work, and your own life experiences.

Use of A.I. chatbots programs (e.g., ChatGPT) will disqualify your application.

Please address each of the following in your autobiographical statement:

1. Describe what you imagine yourself doing with an MSW degree?
2. Explain your development of interest in becoming a social worker. If this is a change in occupations, indicate the reasons for the change.
3. Describe your background and life experiences that were of value in preparing you for entry into professional social work.
4. Describe any paid and/or volunteer social work experiences.
5. Explain how you have prepared yourself for the rigors of this graduate program.
6. Explain your ideas related to social justice.
7. Explain what you have learned in your experiences with diverse populations.
8. Having read the MSW Program's Mission Statement (front page), describe how your education and professional goals fit with the MSW Program's Mission Statement.

University Graduate School Eligibility

- * A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
- * A grade point average of 2.5 or better in the last 60 units is required.
- * Good standing at the last college or university attended.
- * Completed on-line University application for admission.
- * Paid application fee. (\$70.00)
- * Official copies of transcripts for **all** previous college work.

Financial Aid

Financial aid, in the form of unsubsidized student loans, or stipends are available for the program. There are no income restrictions, so most will qualify.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form available at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
Institution code: 001157

For further information contact:

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