

Criminal History Advisement

This advisement is intended to provide you with important information regarding your application and issues surrounding conditions of employment and field placement as related to a criminal history. None of this advisement is intended to discourage you from applying to the program.

Most social work agencies require particular clearances for social workers and social work interns as conditions of employment or field placement. In our experience almost all agencies currently require students to undergo background checks prior to being accepted for field practicum. While specific requirements may vary among agencies, background checks can include (but are not limited to) criminal record checks, checks of central child abuse registries, DMV record checks, checks of sex offender registries, drug tests, and medical examinations. Please be aware that sometimes “expunged” records still show up on background checks. In addition, the state licensing agency for social workers (CA Board of Behavioral Sciences) requires a criminal history check when applicants apply for a license. While criminal history does not necessarily exclude one from employment or licensure, applicants should be aware that a criminal record may **limit or prevent** acceptance into a field placement and may **limit or prevent** future employment or professional licensing.

As part of your application to the MSW Program, you are **required** to provide information about your criminal history. Please be advised that it is your responsibility to disclose information regarding criminal convictions and/or criminal penalties. Please be aware that if there are currently pending criminal charges against you in any jurisdiction, you may be ineligible for admission to the MSW Program or for acceptance into a field placement.

A criminal history does not exclude you from being eligible for admission to the MSW program, and criminal history information will not be included in the competitive application review process. If you are qualified to be accepted to the program, however, a criminal history will result in a further review, including an interview, prior to a final admission decision. Applicants should be aware that if a field practicum cannot be located for an admitted student, the student will be unable to complete the required curriculum and, therefore, unable to earn an MSW degree from this program. **Please report any criminal convictions below, and include this form in your MSW Hybrid Program admission application packet.** You may use the reverse side of this form if additional space is needed.

Required Information

Have you ever been convicted of a crime (misdemeanor or felony) as an adult (18 years of age or older)?

YES _____ NO _____

Offense: _____

Date of Conviction: _____

Disposition: _____

I have read and understand the MSW criminal history advisement discussed above.

Print Name

Signature of Applicant

Date