TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin

Steve Hicks School of Social Work





MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Educating for Change

WELCOME

The Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) program at The University of Texas at Austin prepares students for advanced professional practice and administration with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

This professional degree prepares students for a broad spectrum of career opportunities in settings such as nonprofit agencies, hospitals, schools, private practice, and local, state and federal government.

MSSW PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Ranked among the top-10 social work programs by U.S. News & World Report.
- Developed in accordance with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) policy and accreditation standards.
- 60-credit-hour program including foundation and concentration curricula.
- Two concentrations: Clinical Social Work and Administration and Policy Practice.
- Experiential learning through field internships in the community.
- Course content and field experiences integrated using systems-approach and person-in-environment perspective.
- DiNitto Career Center offers comprehensive services to social work students including career exploration, job-search coaching, licensure preparation and leadership opportunities.
- Vast majority of graduates find jobs within three months.
-

FOUNDATION CURRICULUM

- Prepares students for generalist social work practice.
- Instruction in social work values and ethics, diversity, populations-at-risk and social and economic justice, human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policy and services, social work practice, research, field education.
- Emphasis on social work's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social, economic and environmental justice.

CONCENTRATION CURRICULUM

- Clinical Social Work

Graduates are prepared to become leaders in ethical and culturally responsive clinical practice with individuals, families, groups and communities.

Courses in assessment and diagnosis, advanced social work methods with individuals, families and groups; evidence-based practice evaluation and advanced clinical topics.

- Administration and Policy Practice

Graduates are prepared to become leaders in ethical and culturally responsive practice in human service organizations and programs.

Courses in strategic partnerships, information systems, nonprofit management, program evaluation, leadership and advanced policy practice.

FIELD EDUCATION

- Students build, integrate and apply knowledge in an agency setting under the supervision of master's level social workers.
- More than 500 agencies and organizations approved as field sites.
- Total of 1,020 field placement hours as follows:

  - First field placement (16-20 hours per week): Generalist practice methods to work with individuals, groups, families, organizations, communities.

  - Final field placement (36 hours per week during the spring, or 25 hours per week during spring and into summer): Based on the student's chosen concentration, learning needs and interests.

- Final field placement opportunities in other cities, states, and countries. International sites include, but are not limited to Africa, Australia, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Switzerland.

TAILOR THE PROGRAM TO YOUR INTERESTS

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work offers a variety of programs to help students increase their training and skills to work with unique populations, in specific settings, and in cross-disciplinary fields.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Certificate programs prepare master's students to work with unique populations or in specific settings.

Each of the programs include one required anchor course, elective and selective coursework, 20 hours of professional development, and an approved field placement.

Learn more about certificate programs

- Certificate in Military Social Work Practice
- Certificate in Health Care Social Work
- Certificate in School-Based Social Work Practice

Master's level social workers can have a variety of job titles, such as:

- Agency director
- Crisis intervention counselor
- Geriatric care manager
- Clinical therapist
- Trainer/consultant
- Program developer
- Child/adolescent counselor
- Substance abuse specialist
- Program administrator

> **"I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH WORKING WITH MILITARY POPULATIONS. THERE IS A SHARED CONNECTION, LANGUAGE, AND CULTURE IN THE MILITARY COMMUNITY, AND I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT"**
>
> Dana Larson, MSSW student

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work offers six dual degree programs that allow students to earn a Master of Science in Social Work and any of the following graduate-level degrees:

- Master of Business Administration (with McCombs School of Business)
- Master of Arts with Major in Latin American Studies (with UT Austin Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, LLILAS)
- Master of Public Affairs (with the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs)
- Master of Divinity (with the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary)
- Master of Public Health (with UT Health School of Public Health)
- Doctor of Jurisprudence (with the UT Austin School of Law)

Learn more about dual degree programs

> **"I HAVE BEEN EDUCATED ABOUT LATIN AMERICA THROUGH MY ACTIVISM BUT I STILL HAVE MANY GAPS IN MY KNOWLEDGE. THE DUAL DEGREE PROGAM WITH LLILAS IS A PERFECT FIT."**
>
> Alejandra Spector, MSSW student

PORTFOLIO PROGRAMS

Portfolio Programs offer opportunities for students to increase the breadth of training and obtain credentials in a cross-disciplinary academic area of inquiry while completing the requirements for the MSSW degree.

Students can select from the following portfolio programs:

- Dispute Resolution
- Aging and Health
- Nonprofit Studies
- Women and Gender Studies

Learn more about portfolio programs



DID YOU KNOW?

The Certificate in Health Care Social Work prepares you to to practice in diverse health and wellness settings, including integrated and preventive health care programs.

The dual degree with LLILAS is the first of its kind in the United States. Graduates are able to address gaps in services for Latinx and immigrant populations in the United States.

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work and McCombs School of Business launched their dual degree program in Fall 2019.

Almost half of Steve Hicks School alumni find careers in the nonprofit world. The Nonprofit Studies Portfolio program is a great way of kickstarting that career path.





ADMISSION AND APPLICATION

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work's MSSW Program seeks to admit candidates who demonstrate a personal and professional readiness to pursue graduate education in social work. Admission is competitive and early application is encouraged.

The school welcomes applications from all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religious affiliation, age, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry, or ability. In the pursuit of a dynamic student body, the following areas are given particular consideration in admission: academic achievement and potential; capacity for sustained effort; communication skills; human services motivation and experience; interpersonal effectiveness; and contribution to a diverse student body.

Applicants are reviewed and evaluated on the basis of having completed an applicant file, which includes records of academic work, a personal narrative statement, and letters of recommendation.

WHY CHOOSE SOCIAL WORK?

Social work is a unique profession rich with meaning, action, and the power to make a difference. Social workers pull communities together, help individuals and families find solutions, advance changes in social policy, promote social justice, and foster human and global well-being..

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must be accepted by both the Graduate School and the Steve Hicks School of Social Work.

Requirements for admission are as follows:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. institution or proof of equivalent training at an institution outside the United States.
- GPA of 3.00 or above in upper-division (junior and senior-level) courses and

in any completed graduate work.

- Grade C or above in one introductory statistics course that covered inferential applications.
- Undergraduate courses in the liberal arts and behavioral sciences.

Additional requirements for:

- Students with a Bachelor of Social Work
- International students
- Transfer students
- Dual degree programs

Please note: The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is accepted but not required. Please note that applications with non-traditional transcripts or undergraduate upper division coursework GPAs below 3.0 may be strengthened by scores on the GRE.

DEADLINES TO SUBMIT MATERIALS

Fall admission (2-year, 3-year, 3.5 year programs):

- **November 15** - Priority deadline
- **January 15** - Final deadline

Summer admission (1-year post BSW program)

- **February 15** - Final deadline

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Obtain a university electronic identification (EID).
2. Complete the online application and upload required materials (see details here)
3. Pay a non-refundable application fee

See details and instructions.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Steve Hicks School awards scholarship packages on the basis of merit, interest, and need.

Inquiries: ramon-gomez@austin.utexas.edu

There are also opportunities for student funding through the following Steve Hicks School field training programs:

- Addiction & Recovery Scholars
- BRIDGE - Building Related-Service Capacity through Interdisciplinary Education
- BEADS - Building Excellence in Autism and Disability Scholars (
- CCK - CapCityKids Scholars
- CWEC - Child Welfare Education Collaboration
- Earl Maxwell Scholars
- Fernandez International Field Award
- GRACE - Gerontology Resources and the Aging Community in Education
- IBHS - Integrated Behavioral Health Scholars
- Leben Scholars
- St. David's Foundation Bilingual Social Work Scholars Program

Learn more about these funding opportunities.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

If you are considering applying to the MSSW program, we encourage you to attend an information session.

See schedule.

Why choose UT Austin?

The University of Texas at Austin is one of the country's highest-ranked public research universities and has a tradition of intellectual leadership that transforms lives on a grand scale.

Students choose The University of Texas at Austin for many reasons, including the broad range of academic offerings, the exciting opportunities for research and scholarship, and a lively and diverse campus that sits at the heart of a vibrant city.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Ramón Gómez, director of students and community affairs

sswinfo@utlists.utexas.edu

512-471-9819
(877) 875-7352 (toll free)

