

SOCIAL WORK

Undergraduate Program Information

The BSW degree (CSWE accredited) allows you to join a profession dedicated to helping people in personal and social situations. As a unique and challenging field, social work addresses the complexity of human behavior and the ever-present needs and potential of people. From rural communities to inner cities, social workers work in social service agencies, mental health centers, hospitals, schools, neighborhood organizations, probation offices, and private agencies. Social work roles are varied and flexible. Social workers practice in areas such as child abuse, community organization, direct services with individuals and families, mental health, group work, and the administration, planning, and development of social programs. With each consumer group and in every agency setting, social workers help to correct the causes or alleviate the results of poverty, racism, poor health, mental illness, or any condition that prohibits people from reaching their potential. The School of Social Work offers the undergraduate program in Las Cruces and Online leading to the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree.

Graduate Program Information

The School of Social Work offers full-time and part-time Master of Social Work (MSW) graduate study options. These are available in Las Cruces as well as through our online Global Campus. The program provides academic and practicum education focusing on Advanced Generalist Practice with an emphasis on Populations of the Southwest. It is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Admission to the program follows the general regulations of the Graduate School, which require applicants to have a completed undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. Applicants must apply separately to both the Graduate School and the School of Social Work. The School of Social Work application specifies additional admission requirements, including an internal application, a written statement, a current resume, and personal references. Before starting the MSW program, applicants must complete a Basic Statistics course and a course covering Human Biology content. The program does not award academic credit for work or life experience as a substitute for social work courses or practicum education.

The School of Social Work is committed to ensuring a culturally diverse student population to enhance the social work profession at both state and national levels. To meet this goal of diversity, the school makes an effort to recruit from historically underrepresented groups.

Applicants who qualify for advanced standing may complete the program with 30 credits rather than 60 credits. Admission to the advanced-standing program is for highly qualified applicants who have a Bachelor of Social Work degree (BSW) from a social work program accredited by the CSWE and earned within five years of beginning the advanced standing program, a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in core Undergraduate Social Work courses.