

# SOCIAL WORK

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## 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 graduate study in Las Cruces and Online leading to the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. The program is designed to provide academic and practicum education with an emphasis in Advanced Generalist Practice with Populations of the Southwest based on the foundation first year of generalist practice. The program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Admission to the program is in accordance with the general regulations of the Graduate School, which include a completed undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. In addition to applying to the Graduate School, the application must also be made to the School of Social Work. The application to the School of Social Work spells out admission requirements, including submitting an internal application, a written statement, a current resume, and personal references. Applicants are required to complete a Basic Statistics course and a course with Human Biology content before beginning their MSW program of study. The program does not grant academic credit for work or other life experience in lieu of 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.