

MSW Program Application OVERVIEW

*** This document is provided to you as a guideline as you prepare to apply to the MSW Program in the Department of Social Work at Humboldt State University.**

Instructions

The MSW application has several parts. Please review the sections you must complete before proceeding and carefully review your application before submitting. **Once your application has been submitted you will not be able to edit or resubmit.**

- Program Selection
- Distance Learning Supplemental Questions (only if applying for the Distance Learning Program)
 - Petition for Advanced Standing Consideration (only for Advanced Standing applicants who graduated with an accredited bachelor's degree in social work more than 5 years ago)
- Applicant Contact Information
- Signature Certifying Application
- Prerequisite Course Verification Form
- Unofficial Copies of Transcripts – These are mandatory for the department application
- Summary of Work Experience
- Personal Statement

Please be sure to save your work as you go. You will not see a "SUBMIT" button until your application is complete.

Apply

Select Program(s) you are applying for:

Applicants who have graduated from a CSWE accredited undergraduate social work program in the last five (5) years are eligible to apply to the Advanced Standing Program. If you are applying to the Advanced Standing Program and it has been longer than five (5) years, the "Petition for Advanced Standing Consideration" is required.

Applicants applying for the Distributed Learning Program are required to complete the Supplemental Questionnaire.

Program Selections

- Full-Time 2 Year Program
- Advanced Standing 1 Year Program
- Distributed Learning Part-Time 3.5 Year Program
- Distributed Learning Advanced Standing 2 Year Program

Prerequisite Course Verification Form

The MSW program requires candidates to have completed a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Candidates must also have a foundation in the liberal arts. This form is used to verify that you meet the liberal arts foundation and other specified courses required.

Course titles and content differ from school to school. Identify from your transcripts which courses meet each of our prerequisite content areas. If it is not apparent how your courses are equivalent, you may have to prove equivalency (e.g., provide course description, syllabus, or letter from instructor). If you have not yet met a content area, explain how and where you plan to do so. (**Important Notes:** Proof of completion (an official transcript) of all prerequisites must be provided before the start of the graduate program. Official Transcripts will be required by June 30th for all pre-requisite course work. Applicants **must** be enrolled in unmet prerequisite course work during the spring semester. Applicants should provide proof of registration with the application for unmet prerequisites).

Preference may be given to applicants who have completed the prerequisites.

Humanities

Students with a strong liberal arts foundation in humanities recognize the importance of seeing people as capable, creative, critical thinkers and learn to express their thoughts and feelings, think and act critically, and appreciate diverse beliefs and spiritual traditions. Students must enter with **at least two courses** in disciplines such as Communication, Dance, Dramatic Arts, Fine Arts, Literature, Music, Philosophy, or Religious Studies. Ability to speak and write in another language other than English is valued but not required.

Humanities (please choose one):

- I have met this requirement. (Please complete Humanities 1-3)
- I have NOT met this requirement and am registered to take the following course(s) at the indicated institution(s) (please attach proof of registration):

Social Sciences

From the social sciences, the liberal arts perspective develops an awareness of the personal and political connection that informs the complex intersections of race, class, and gender that are essential in our evolving cultural and political world. **One course MUST be centrally organized around Native American content that considers history and culture.** Students must enter with **at least two courses** in disciplines such as Anthropology, Ethnic Studies, Geography, History, Native American Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Women's Studies are required

Social Sciences (please choose one):

- I have met this requirement. (Please complete Social Sciences 1-3)
- I have NOT met this requirement and am registered to take the following course(s) at the indicated institution(s) (please attach proof of registration):

Natural Sciences

The liberal arts preparation in natural sciences provides students with knowledge of inter-relationships between human activity and its impact on the physical world. Students are expected to enter with at least one course in a discipline such as Anatomy, Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Environmental Studies, Fisheries, Forestry, Geology, Meteorology, Microbiology, Oceanography, Physics, Physiology, or Wildlife.

Natural Sciences (please choose one):

- I have met this requirement. (Please complete Natural Sciences 1-3)
- I have NOT met this requirement and am registered to take the following course(s) at the indicated institution(s) (please attach proof of registration):

Analytic Reasoning/Elementary Statistics

Analytical reasoning from the liberal arts is important for social work practice and provides students with an understanding for organized, analytical processes that are necessary for research. Courses in mathematics, logic, and research help develop preparation in this area. **Students are specifically required to complete a prerequisite of elementary or a higher level of statistics PRIOR to entering the MSW program.** Statistics courses that fulfill this requirement may be in Health Sciences, Mathematics, Psychology, Sociology, Statistics or another discipline that clearly defines the course as an equivalent to elementary statistics. **Students MUST have a grade of C or better in the statistics class.**

Analytic Reasoning/Elementary Statistics (please choose one):

- I have met this requirement. (Please complete Analytic Reasoning/Elementary Statistics 1-3)
- I have NOT met this requirement and am registered to take the following course(s) at the indicated institution(s) (please attach proof of registration):

Unofficial Copies of Transcripts

Please provide up to 3 unofficial transcripts.

Note: These are mandatory for the department application .

Work Experience

Summary of Work Experience

DIRECTIONS: Please list up to 8 paid and/or volunteer experiences you have had. List most recent first. Please calculate your total hours for each paid and/or volunteer position. For instance, if you worked for 6 months in a position, 4 days a week, 3 hours a day, your total would be 288 hours.)

Other Relevant Work Experience

Continuing education, workshops and conferences attended:

(Please list as DATE/TITLE/PRESENTER and use a comma to separate each)

Conferences:

Honors, awards and special achievements (academic, work, volunteer):

(Please list as DATE/TITLE and use a comma to separate each)

Achievements:

Languages spoken and written and level of fluency:

(Please list as LANGUAGE/LEVEL OF FLUENCY and use a comma to separate each)

Languages:

International experiences (length of time, work/volunteer experiences):

(Please list as DATE/LOCATION/ACTIVITY and use a comma to separate each)

International experiences:

Personal Statement

Guidelines for Personal Statement

Your statement is meant to help us understand who you are and your readiness and capacity for graduate education in social work. We are also interested in your thoughts about the possible contributions you feel you will make, following the completion of your education, to the well being of all peoples, communities, and the planet. What you say will help us to understand how and why our program at Humboldt State University is the best program for you. Overall, your responses will help us assess the goodness-of-fit between your interests, life purpose, and commitments – and those that we hold dear. Finally your statement helps us to ascertain your writing skills and ability to conceptualize your thoughts into a well-developed and coherent essay.

Address the following points in **one well-developed essay**. We are not looking for short answers to individual items, rather a single coherent and well-conceptualized essay that addresses these points. ***Please limit your personal statement to no more 1250 words.***

- Tell us how you arrived at the decision to pursue a career in social work. What is your reason for pursuing a graduate degree in social work and how do you envision yourself using this degree?
- Identify how our graduate program's emphasis on working with Native American (Indigenous Peoples) communities is meaningful to you. How do you understand the affects of colonization on the social, cultural, and political lives and rights of these populations and how has this influenced your desire to be a social worker?
- Identify how our graduate program's emphasis on working in rural communities is meaningful to you. What are some of the unique challenges of rural social work and how do you envision yourself working with these challenges?
- Discuss how your own privilege has informed your interaction with people whose lives, worldviews, beliefs, and/or values are different from your own (e.g., culture, ethnicity, ability, class, religion, sexuality, and/or politics).

- Discuss how you have engaged in activism, advocacy and social justice in the past and how these fit into your pursuit of a graduate education in social work and how they will continue to be a part of your life following your studies.
- How have your own experiences of marginalization and oppression influenced the person you are today and how will you incorporate what you have learned into your future as a social worker?
- What is your professional goal and how will the HSU MSW program help you achieve it?

NOTE: Please name your document using your first and last name separated with a period (i.e. John.Doe)

Personal Statement (attachment) *

Files must be less than **10 MB**.

Allowed file types: **jpg tif pdf doc**.