

SOCIAL WORK, BSW

for the degree of Bachelor of Social Work Major in Social Work

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school faculty: School of Social Work Faculty (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/directory/>)

overview of school admissions & requirements: School of Social Work (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate-programs/>)

The Bachelor of Science in Social Work can be completed through our traditional program on the Urbana campus or through our upper-level completer program. The traditional program is open to freshmen, off-campus transfers, and inter-campus transfers. Courses are taken on the Urbana campus. The iBSW Program is open to junior-level transfer students. The iBSW program is a two-year degree completion program that allows students to earn their Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree while residing in students' home communities.

The purpose of undergraduate social work education at the School of Social Work is to provide a comprehensive educational experience for students that is grounded in a liberal arts tradition and prepares graduates for excellence in the areas of social work practice, policy, social engagement, and leadership.

Upon degree completion, graduates will be prepared for entry into generalist social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education, and a multitude of career opportunities. These can include careers in communications, corrections, education, government, healthcare, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies, and public service. Obtaining an undergraduate degree in Social Work gives students the opportunity to pursue a License of Social Work (LSW). A BSW degree also makes students eligible to pursue Advanced Standing status in many masters of Social Work (MSW) programs. The advanced standing status enables BSW graduates to receive an MSW in only one year.

The focus of undergraduate curriculum delivery is through a student-centered strengths-based educational model that fosters student understanding by providing a challenging, yet supportive environment of high expectations that encourage the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

The social work major prepares practitioners for generalist social work practice with individuals, groups, families, and communities. The curriculum requires a minimum of 120 hours for graduation.