

## Master of Social Work at Brigham Young University

Thank you for your interest in the Master of Social Work program at BYU. In addition to the summary in this document, you will find more information on our web page at [socialwork.byu.edu](https://socialwork.byu.edu).

### MISSION

The mission of the School of Social Work at Brigham Young University is to support the overall mission of BYU and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by generating new knowledge and by educating and training students to use the appropriate knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession to serve individuals and families within their environment and the context of their specific cultures.

### PROGRAM

Our MSW program offers two emphases: **Clinical** and **Research**, both focusing on families and children. These emphases are different in the following ways:

#### CLINICAL

Approximately 38 students are admitted each year to the clinical emphasis. Students from this emphasis receive exceptional clinical training to work in mental health and other direct practice settings, go on to receive LCSW licensure, and frequently become agency directors and administrators of social work organizations.

#### RESEARCH

Approximately 2-4 students are admitted each year to the research emphasis. These students are well qualified to pursue advanced training in top social work PhD programs. Research emphasis students will also receive strong clinical training, but they will 1) take advanced research courses outside of social work as part of their elective requirements (instead of clinical electives), and 2) submit their research project for professional publication. Alumni from this emphasis are prepared to go on to become university professors, work in a research or policy arena, or receive advanced clinical training.

Our program takes 20 months of full-time study to complete, including 1,050 hours of field internship. We **do not** offer a part-time or online MSW program.



“We make a living by what we earn, but we make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

## TUITION

Graduate tuition for Fall 2023 is \$4,084/semester for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), and \$8,168 for non-LDS students.

## PREREQUISITES

Completion of three **prerequisite** classes is required from all applicants *prior* to the application deadline: Introduction to Social Work, Research Methods, and Statistics. These courses must have been taken within the past 7 years with minimum B- grades. Additional courses are recommended. Please see our website for a list of pre-approved Prerequisite and Recommended Courses: [socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > Prerequisite Courses. The University requires an undergraduate **minimum GPA** of 3.0. The typical average GPA for admitted MSW students is 3.7. We do not require the GRE; however, if you take it and your score is sent to BYU, it will be considered as part of your application. Typically, 110-160 students apply for the 40 available slots each year.

## APPLICATION

Each year the new application cycle opens on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The **deadline** to submit the completed application is **January 15<sup>th</sup>**. Applications are received online only through the BYU Graduate Studies website ([gradstudies.byu.edu](http://gradstudies.byu.edu).) There is a \$50 non-refundable application fee. Admitted MSW students begin the following Fall semester in late August or early September.

For more information and application details specific to social work, please attend or watch online one of our MSW Information Sessions ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu)) and refer to the MSW Application Checklist ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > Application Checklist).

Please feel free to contact us with questions or for further information.

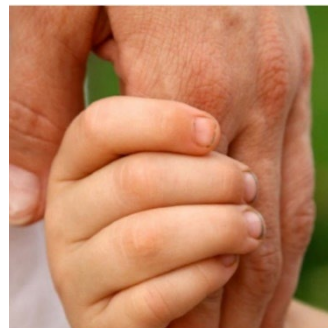
### Nanci Shumpert – MSW Program Manager

BYU School of Social Work

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2181 JFSB, Provo, UT 84602

(801) 422-5681



# BYU Graduate School Application

## Master of Social Work Checklist

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- Graduate Studies online application: [gradstudies.byu.edu](http://gradstudies.byu.edu). Start the app after September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ecclesiastical Endorsement. A new, 2-part endorsement is required from all applicants with Bishop and Stake President interviews completed. Non-LDS applicants interview with their local church leader and the BYU Chaplain. This includes agreeing to live by the BYU Honor Code.
- Minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA.
- Prerequisite classes completed by January 15<sup>th</sup>: Intro to Social Work, Statistics, Research Methods. Taken within the past 7 years, with B- or above grades. ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > Prerequisite Courses).
- Accredited bachelor's degree, completed before the start of the MSW program in Fall.
- Unofficial transcripts. Official transcripts are required when admitted.
- Emphasis: Clinical or Research. Enter your choice in the 'Emphasis' box.
- Résumé - one page.
- Statement of Intent specific to Social Work (6-8 pages). Answer and upload the statement questions from our website ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > Statement of Intent). Also included in this document for you to complete is your last 60-hour GPA calculation.
- Digital Interview Response. An email will be sent to you when you enter the intended program. After opening the link, you have 1 week to complete the digital interview. Complete the interview with your application submission or sooner.
- Standards & Expectations of a BYU Social Work Student agreement. ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > Standards for MSW Students).
- 3 Letters of Recommendation from academic and social work settings only. One from an academic setting, one from a social work setting and one from either category. An automatic email is sent to recommenders when you save that page of the application.
- MSW department scholarship application. Upload this in the Supplemental Materials section, Scholarship Application. ([socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > MSW Scholarship Application).
- Sign, submit and pay the application fee of \$50.
- For MSW admissions consideration, all the above items must be submitted and received by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

# Scholarships & Financial Aid

## Scholarships through the BYU School of Social Work

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### Application Procedure for all Scholarships from the School of Social Work

Complete the Scholarship Application found on our website: [socialwork.byu.edu](http://socialwork.byu.edu) > Admissions > MSW Scholarship Application. Deadline for submission is **January 15<sup>th</sup>**, uploaded to your online graduate school application. Only admitted students will be eligible to receive scholarships and other financial aid.

### Gibbons Scholarship

The Gene Gibbons Endowment was established in 2011 through the generous contributions from the Friends of Brigham Young University Social Work Program. The scholarship is designed to meet the financial needs of outstanding students who are committed to pursuing the Master of Social Work degree at BYU.

**Value:** Full LDS-rate tuition for one semester and half LDS-rate tuition for one semester.

**Eligibility:** Typically awarded to two 1st year graduate students annually. Recipients are chosen based on a variety of criteria including academic achievement, identified need, community service, and potential for contribution in the field of social work.

### Social Work Advocate Scholarship

The Social Work Advocate Scholarship is designed to meet the financial needs of outstanding students who are committed to pursuing the Master of Social Work degree at BYU.

**Value:** Partial or Full LDS-rate tuition for one semester.

**Eligibility:** Typically awarded to 10-15 1st year graduate students annually. Recipients are chosen based on a variety of criteria including academic achievement, identified need, community service, and potential for contribution in the field of social work.

## Other Financial Aid through the BYU School of Social Work

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### Graduate Assistantships

There are a limited number of teaching assistantships and research assistantships awarded each year, mostly to first year students. Students are required to work approximately five or more hours per week (up to 70 hours per semester) and are compensated on an hourly basis, with the potential to earn approximately \$1,120 per semester. The research assistantships are open to all graduate students in the School but a demonstrated interest in research is useful. The intensity of the applicant's financial need is taken into account in awarding all assistantships. Newly admitted MSW students will be sent the Graduate Assistant application.

### Paid Fieldwork Placements

The potential for paid fieldwork placements becomes available to all MSW students during their third semester, Spring term, when fieldwork begins. These paid placements are typically made available to all students who need and desire them. The compensation averages about \$4500 for the Spring/Summer terms and an additional \$6000 for Fall and Winter Semesters combined. The availability of paid placements changes from year to year and depends on the current operating budget of internship agencies. The selection of students for placement in a given agency is dependent on a number of variables including the student's interests and career goals, the agency's preference for particular students, and the Director of Field Education's assessment of individualized educational needs.

### AmeriCorps Education Awards

Currently, education awards are available to students who are US Citizens, intern at a non-profit agency and serve more than 450 hours (spring/summer terms for approx. \$1527) and/or 675 hours (fall/winter semesters for approx. \$2221).

## Other Funding Opportunities at BYU

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### Financial Aid and Scholarship Office

The Financial Aid and Scholarship Office provides student financial aid information and how to apply, including part-time work, scholarships, federal grants, federal loans, and BYU loans. Their website is [financialaid.byu.edu](http://financialaid.byu.edu).

### FHSS Internship Grants

Current undergraduate and graduate students who are declared majors in a program in the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences or in International Relations may apply for an internship grant.

### Marjorie Pay Hinckley Chair Travel Grants

The Marjorie Pay Hinckley Chair in the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences provides funds to support student participation in professional academic conferences.

### Office of Prestigious Scholarships & Fellowships

The Office of Prestigious Scholarships & Fellowships provides a list of scholarships arranged by type and field of study as well as resources available to students to aid in getting started on scholarship searches and applications.

### Graduate Fellowship & Scholarships

Based on need. To obtain information about these loans and forms to apply, visit the Financial Aid Office web site contact them directly at A-41 ASB, BYU, Provo, Utah 84602, Phone: (801) 422-4104.

### Merlin & Edna Sant Graduate Scholarship

Must be a graduate student in the FHSS College, have a minimum GPA of 3.2, and have Family as the central focus of your education.

### FHSS Single Parent Scholarship

Must be a single parent in the FHSS college, 3.0 minimum GPA, and enrolled in 12 credit hours per semester.

## Standards & Expectations of a BYU Social Work Student

In addition to scholastic achievement, the following physical, cognitive, emotional, and character attributes provide reasonable assurance that students can effectively complete the BYU Master of Social Work (MSW) program and adhere to standards of professional social work practice. As the acquisition of competence as a social worker is a gradual process, students are expected to continually develop these attributes as they progress through all aspects of the program, including the classroom, field placements, and other areas of professional social work practice. Accepting admission into the MSW program, students commit that they have the following abilities and attributes and will conduct themselves according to the following requirements:

**Physical and Motor Skills** Students should exhibit sufficient motor and sensory abilities to attend and participate in class and field placement, with or without accommodations (see the BYU Accessibility Center (<https://uac.byu.edu/>) for additional information).

**Communication Skills** Students must have the ability to process information and communicate effectively with instructors, other students, faculty members, staff, clients, and other professionals. Students must have sufficient skills in written and spoken English.

**Ethical Standards** Students are ethically and professionally bound to adhere to the NASW (National Association of Social Workers) Code of Ethics and applicable state laws. In addition, it is essential that students demonstrate empathy, appreciation for diverse life experiences, and develop a non-judgmental attitude in their interaction with others. Confidentiality is foundational to the profession of social work.

**Knowledge Base** Students recognize ecological systems and distinct components of the biopsychosocial and spiritual perspectives of social work practice and methodologies.

**Professionalism** Students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct, including practicing within the appropriate scope of social work, adhering to the limit of their knowledge and skills in the delivery of services to clients, respecting others, being punctual and dependable, completing assignments and reports in a timely manner, and prioritizing professional responsibilities. Appearance and personal demeanor should reflect an appropriate understanding of the professional context. Conflict resolution should follow proper channels of authority, with feedback given and/or received in a professional manner. Respect should be shown to fellow students, faculty, staff, clients, and colleagues in the classroom and in the field. Disrespectful behavior toward others or any form of sexual harassment will not be tolerated.

**Self-Awareness** Students need to recognize within themselves the signs of stress and emotional challenges, develop appropriate means of self-care, and seek supportive services when necessary to minimize any adverse impact on academic and professional performance. Students seek the advice of faculty advisors and access relevant supports as needed. Students are open to recommendations regarding the appropriate maintenance of their academic, physical, or mental health.

**Objectivity** Students are expected to learn the knowledge, values, skills, and processes required for professional practice. Students should not impose their own personal, religious, sexual, and/or cultural values on their clients. Students are willing to examine diverse perspectives and maintain professional behavior with clients and other professionals.

**Empathy** Students should seek to understand and respect another individual's feelings, values, and way of life. Students must be able to communicate empathy and support to the client as a basis for a productive professional relationship.

**Acceptance of Diversity** Students are expected to demonstrate an understanding and respect for belonging, diversity, equity, and inclusion, regardless of race, ethnicity, age, class, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religious affiliation, marital status, political belief, tribal or immigration status, mental or physical ability, veteran status, or value system.

**BYU Mission Fit** Students should contribute to and support the academic and religious mission of the University, including the spiritually strengthening aim of a BYU education. Students agree to abide by the Honor Code and Dress and Grooming standards.





# Program Summary

## Prerequisites

1. Introduction to Social Work
  2. Statistics
  3. Research Methods
- All must be completed prior to the **January 15<sup>th</sup> application deadline**
  - Must be completed within 7 years
  - Minimum B- or above grades

## Application

- Deadline to Apply: Jan 15<sup>th</sup> for the following Fall Semester
- Apply online @ [gradstudies.byu.edu](http://gradstudies.byu.edu). \$50 application fee
- Approximately 110-160 applicants, 40 graduate students admitted each Fall
- GRE not required
- All applicants will be notified of their admission decision by April 1<sup>st</sup>
- \$200 Tuition deposit required in April – applied to your Fall tuition

## Admissions Criteria

- Completion of prerequisites
- Undergraduate GPA - Minimum 3.0. Admitted student average is 3.7
- Last 60-hour GPA calculation
- Statement of Intent & Video Response (Digital Interview)
- 3 Letters of Recommendation (1 academic, 1 social work setting, 1 either category)
- Paid/volunteer social work experience

## Program

- Clinical or Research emphasis
- 20-month program, including 1050 hours of Field Internships
- Research project/publishable paper

## Financial Aid

- Historically paid Internships
- Scholarships available thru College/Department. Upload the completed form to your Graduate Application before submitting (deadline is January 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Graduate Assistant jobs available - applications will be sent to all admitted students

Please feel free to contact us with questions or for further information.

Website: [www.socialwork.byu.edu](http://www.socialwork.byu.edu)

Email: [msw@byu.edu](mailto:msw@byu.edu)

Phone: (801) 422-5681



# MSW Program of Study

2023-2025

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

54 required hours + 6 elective hours = 60 total credit hours

BYU ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

## Research Emphasis Students take research electives

Fall 2023			Credit Hrs
	Soc W 603	Research Methods in Social Work	2
	Soc W 620	Human Behavior and Social Environment	3
	Soc W 623	Social Justice & Diversity	2
	Soc W 660	Social Work Direct Practice Skills	3
	Soc W 661	Social Work Practice Models	3
<b>Required Hours Total:</b>			<b>13</b>
<i>*Electives</i>	<i>Soc W 671</i>	<i>Play Therapy</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 680R</i>	<i>Pharmacology (online)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 683</i>	<i>Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice (ONLINE) (Certification available)</i>	2
<i>Research Elective</i>	<i>MFHD 605</i>	<i>Structural Equation Modeling</i>	3
<b>Semester Hours total:</b>			<b>13-16</b>
Winter 2024			
	Soc W 602	Statistical & Data Analysis in Social Work Research	3
	Soc W 611	Supervised Clinical Social Work Practicum	3
	Soc W 622	Social Work Assessment	3
	Soc W 666	Specialized Direct Social Work Practice	3
<b>Required Hours Total:</b>			<b>12</b>
<i>*Electives</i>	<i>Soc W 580</i>	<i>Social Work in the School Setting (Certification available) (offered only Winter 2024)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 675</i>	<i>Substance Use Disorders</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 680R</i>	<i>Pharmacology (online course)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 683</i>	<i>Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice (ONLINE) (Certification available)</i>	2
<i>Research Elective</i>	<i>MFHD 706R</i>	<i>Advanced Statistical Methods</i>	3
<b>Semester Hours total:</b>			<b>14-15</b>
Spring/Summer Semester 2024:			
	Soc W 614R	Integrative Field Seminar 1	2
	Soc W 654R	Field Internship 1	4
add'l tuition if taken Sp/Su	<i>Soc W 680R</i>	<i>Pharmacology (online)</i>	2
<b>Required Hours Total:</b>			<b>6</b>
Fall 2024			
	Soc W 615R	Integrative Field Seminar 2	1
	Soc W 606	Program & Practice Evaluation in Social Work	2
	Soc W 624	Social Work Practice with Couples and Families	2
	Soc W 630	Social Welfare Policy	3
	Soc W 655R	Field Internship 2	2
	Soc W 663	Social Work Practice with Groups	3
<b>Required Hours Total:</b>			<b>13</b>
<i>*Electives</i>	<i>Soc W 582</i>	<i>Refugee Studies (offered only Fall 2024)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 671</i>	<i>Play Therapy</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 674</i>	<i>Human Sexuality and Social Work Practice (2<sup>nd</sup> yr MSWs only)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 680R</i>	<i>Pharmacology (online course)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 683</i>	<i>Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice (ONLINE) (Certification available)</i>	2
<b>Semester Hours total:</b>			<b>13-15</b>
Winter 2025			
	Soc W 615R	Integrative Field Seminar 2	1
	Soc W 655R	Field Internship 2	2
	Soc W 664	Leadership & Community Organization	3
	Soc W 667	Social Work Practice with Children & Adolescents	2
	Soc W 669	Specialized Clinical Practice	2
<b>Required Hours Total:</b>			<b>10</b>
<i>*Electives</i>	<i>Soc W 675</i>	<i>Substance Use Disorders</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 676</i>	<i>Spirituality in Social Work (offered only Winter 2025)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 680R</i>	<i>Pharmacology (online course)</i>	2
	<i>Soc W 683</i>	<i>Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice (ONLINE) (Certification available)</i>	2
<b>Semester Hours total:</b>			<b>10-12</b>

**TOTAL Credit Hours:**

Faculty Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* Students may take Soc W 595R (Directed Readings) for 1-3 elective credits. See Faculty Advisor for more information.

Any outside electives must be pre-approved by the Graduate Coordinator or Director.

Required courses are listed first in each semester. Electives are in *italics*.