

## **Considering a Master of Social Work degree? You are in the right place!**

Social work is a very diverse profession that encompasses working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities across a variety of settings. [Learn More](#)

Social workers provide case management and clinical services to individuals, couples, families, and groups who may be dealing with any number of life challenges. Social workers offer therapeutic and supportive counseling, and connect people to community resources to help them meet their needs and achieve their goals.

Social workers work in community organizations, government, and advocacy groups to alleviate poverty and social injustices. This might include legislative advocacy, policy analysis, and community organizing to break down barriers and drive reform.

Many social workers' careers include both individual client-centered work and system-wide advocacy work. Regardless of the specific career path, social work involves individual services for people in need of support along with program development and advocacy to improve the institutions, systems, and policies impacting their client population. \*

### **Why an MSW degree vs. another helping profession?**

A Master of Social Work (MSW) degree prepares students for a leadership role in the care and advocacy of clients that includes individuals, families, organizations and communities. An MSW degree provides the skills needed to perform clinical assessments, advocate for entitlements, provide education and resources, offer clinical counseling, and manage a large caseload of complex cases.

The MSW degree offers coursework in clinical practice, social administration, public policy, research and ethics leading to many different career paths in the public health and the medical field, nonprofit organizations, or government programs that address public needs. Social workers are also taught the skills and theories to challenge social injustice and change systems of care. \*\*

For more information on the profession of social work, visit the following sites:

Bureau of Labor Bureau and Statistics-Occupational Outlook Handbook at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-workers.htm>

National Association of Social Workers at <https://www.socialworkers.org/Careers/Career-Center/Explore-Social-Work>

\*Social Work Guide at <https://www.socialworkguide.org/careers/>

\*\* Social Work License Map at <https://socialworklicensemap.com/social-work-vs-counseling/>