

**The below Social Work policy information is an excerpt from the complete Student Handbook and Field Manual (updated Jan 2018). The full document can be located on the Creighton University Social Work program website.

ADMISSIONS INQUIRIES & PROCESS

The mission of social work education is to prepare students for professional generalist social work practice. Students accepted into the program meet the established academic criteria and demonstrate aptitude and behaviors necessary to meet the standards established by the Council on Social Work Education and the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics. The Social Work Program is invested in and responsible for this educational process by its admission, advancement, and termination policies and procedures. Students are accepted as social work majors by the College of Arts and Science but students **MUST apply and be formally admitted into the Social Work Program by meeting the program's specific criteria listed below.** Students must meet the criteria described below to advance into the field practicum sequence and to remain in the program.

INQUIRIES AND ADVISING

Students interested in learning more about Social Work as a major can contact Angela Batson (arbatson@creighton.edu) for general information or to set up an appointment with one of the faculty. Ongoing advising for all social work majors is done directly with Social Work faculty.

ADMISSION INTO THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

ADMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The annual University Bulletin-Undergraduate describes the general criteria for admission. Creighton admits qualified students without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Its education policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other programs and activities, are administered without unlawful discrimination. It is also the policy of the University to make all programs and services available to individuals with disabilities. See page 2 of this document for the formal non-discrimination statement.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION INTO THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR ARE AS FOLLOWS

1. Cumulative grade point average of 2.5
2. Complete the Application for Major form for the College of Arts & Sciences, found on their website, <https://ccas.creighton.edu/current-students>
3. Complete the formal application process to the Social Work Program. See Social Work program website for details. Upon inquiry of social work as a major, student will be added to the Blue Line site for admission forms and process

4. Satisfactory completion of the following non-practice social work courses, earning a C or better for social work majors:

- a. Psychology 201 Introductory Psychology
- b. Sociology 101 Introduction to Sociology: Self and Society
- c. Social Work 261: Vulnerable Populations: Social Work and Social Welfare
Social Work 275: Human Behavior and the Social Environment

5. The student is required to complete:

- a. The Admission Assessment document and related essay questions
- b. Review of the Student Handbook and agreement with its contents.
Verification of this review and agreement is noted on the Admission Assessment on the Admissions BlueLine site.

6. This following statement applies to exceptions only; students are expected to take SWK 261 and/or SWK 275 prior to admission and advancement in Social Work practice courses. Students who have declared Social Work as their major, but who have not taken SWK 261 or SWK 275 prior to fall of their junior year must meet with the Program Director to request approval to take one of the courses concurrently with SWK 345/346. Approval of such request is not guaranteed and may require student to complete an extra year for major completion. The Program Director will outline requirements and expectations if approved, which allow the student to conditionally proceed and be assessed before University course withdrawal date for either full admission into the Program or counseling to another major.

To provide for the well-being of social work students and their potential clients, students are invited to self-disclose information to the Social Work faculty that will enhance or may impact their learning situation, especially in field work. This includes mental or physical health issues; chemical dependency issues; and legal issues.

PROCESS FOR ACCEPTANCE INTO THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR ARE AS FOLLOWS

1. Faculty from the Social Work program review the prospective students' Admission Assessment, also scoring the student based on previous classroom interaction.
2. Students are notified of the admissions decision by a letter or email from the Director of the Social Work Program. Students who are not accepted, or are accepted conditionally, are requested to schedule an appointment with the Program Director to discuss their situation. Students who are not accepted may appeal the decision by initiating the appeal process as outlined in the **Creighton University Student Handbook**.

3. If academic challenges exist or if concerns emerge from the admissions process, the Social Work faculty will meet individually with the student and other support resources as needed. Students may be granted admission with conditional requirements for student support based on identified needs or concerns.
4. There are two options if a student is not admitted into program:
 - a) The student may be referred for advisement to another major.
 - b) The student will be required to collaborate on a remedial plan approved by the Program Director.

Social work education is founded on the ability to integrate theory with practice. While this GPA requirement is stricter than the requirement for majoring (GPA of 2.0) in most departments at Creighton University, the professional role assumed by the graduate requires greater academic proficiency. This academic proficiency is necessary to integrate classroom materials, field placement experiences and social work professional values and ethics necessary for beginning generalist social work practice.

A student who does not meet the academic requirements may petition the Program Director requesting an exception to the requirement after discussion with his/her advisor. Student performance in SWK 261: Vulnerable Populations: Social Work and Social Welfare, and Human Behavior and Social Environment (SWK 275) in their course study to this point, along with the recommendation of the advisor, will be taken into consideration in these instances. The Program Director convenes the entire faculty to discuss and decide on the student's petition.

COURSE TRANSFER INFORMATION

Students wishing to transfer and receive credit for courses from other social work programs must produce course syllabi. Transfer students are required to have a current or former instructor fill out the admission form before consideration for acceptance. The Program Director decides if the content is consistent with curriculum of the Social Work Program. Under no circumstances will Practicum and Practicum courses be accepted as transfer credits. Transfer credits are decided on a case-by-case basis and only courses from accredited social work programs are considered. **Note: Course credit is not given for previous or concurrent life or work experience.**