## Bachelor of Social Work Application Instructions

BSW Program applications are submitted through the College of Social Work's website https://socialwork.utah.edu/bsw/apply/index.php.

Your BSW application must be submitted by 11:59 pm MST on the application deadline.

Applicants are notified with an admissions decision 6 weeks after BSW Program application deadline.

Applicants who are NOT current University of Utah students must also apply for admission to the U at https://futureu.admissions.utah.edu/apply/.

University of Utah admission deadlines may differ from the College of Social Work's; it is the applicant's responsibility to understand and comply with the University of Utah admissions requirements and deadlines.

Admission to the BSW Program is contingent upon admission to the University of Utah. Applicants may receive notification of BSW admissions prior to being accepted to the University of Utah. If you are not accepted to the U, your BSW Program admission offer will be rescinded.

If you need accommodation during the BSW application process, contact the Center for Disability and Access (CDA) at 801-581-5020, disability.utah.edu.

### BSW Program Admission Deadlines

| | |
|---|---|
| **Fall Semester** | **Open Date:** December 1st, each year <br> **Deadline:** March 15th, each year |
| **Spring Semester** | **Open Date:** June 1st, each year <br> **Deadline:** September 15th, each year |

### BSW Admissions Criteria

- **A cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 2.75,** averaged from every institution the applicant has attended
- **At least 30 college level credits must be completed or in-progress** at time of application (requisite courses and prior learning credits can apply toward the total number earned.)
- **Completion or registration of BSW pre-major course requirements**
- **Transcripts from every college or university attended by applicant**, regardless of final grades earned or how long ago attended
- **Personal Statement essay questions**
- **Two Recommendations**
- **Social Work-Related Resume**

## Pre-Major Course Requirements

- MATH (QL) and Writing (WR2) must be completed by the time an applicant begins the BSW Program
    - WR2 requirement must be completed with C- or better
    - QL requirement must be completed with a D- or better

- The following courses must be completed with a grade of C- or better by the time an applicant begins the BSW Program.
    - SW 1010 - Social Work and Social Welfare
    - SOC 1010 - Introduction to Sociology
    - POLS 1100 - US National Government or equivalent
    - PSY 1010 – General Psychology or equivalent

    *Note:* you may have completed equivalent versions of these courses at another institution. Check with a BSW academic advisor to ensure that the courses you took at a transfer institution will indeed satisfy our program's pre-major requirements.

## Transcripts

Upload PDF copies of transcripts from ALL institutions, previously attended and currently attending (including the University of Utah), regardless of final grades earned or how long ago attended. The College of Social Work accepts both Official and Unofficial transcripts.

Do not pay or order your transcripts to be delivered to the University of Utah - upload your transcript copies directly to your BSW Application.

Degree Audits will not be accepted in place of the applicant's transcripts.

## Personal Statement Essay Questions

Using 500-600 words for each section, applicants will respond to four prompts within the program application. It is recommended to complete and save your responses in a word processor prior to completing the application form. You will be able to verify word count and revisit your responses if the application closes.  Altogether, responses should total approximately a 4-page double-spaced essay.

Applicants will be evaluated on their writing ability, critical thinking, evidence of understanding social work values, ability to follow instructions, and the quality of work/volunteer experiences

1. Discuss your reasons for seeking a BSW Degree. What factors did you consider in your decision? What alternate careers have you explored?
2. What work, volunteer, or life experiences have helped you prepare for a career in social work?

3. How do your strengths, areas for growth, and limitations align with the NASW Code of Ethics, particularly regarding social justice, respect for individual dignity, and promoting clients' self-determination?
4. Respond in detail to the following statement: "People get what they deserve in life."

## Optional GPA Statement

In 500 words or less, discuss the following:

- What were the contributing factors to your undergraduate GPA?
- How have you otherwise demonstrated a capacity for success in a rigorous program?
- If granted admission to the BSW program, how do you plan to address potential obstacles that you might face?

## Two Recommendations

Two Recommendations are required to be submitted on your behalf. Applicants can/should complete the Professional Recommendation Request Form separately from their application – this means you can submit this form early on the first day the application opens. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure recommendations are submitted and communicate with your recommenders throughout the admissions process.

Choose individuals who can speak to your potential in social work or on your academic/professional performance and you are confident will say good things about you.

| Examples of Acceptable Recommenders | Examples of Unacceptable Recommenders |
|---|---|
| <ul><li>Professors/Teachers/Faculty</li><li>Supervisors (Employer or Volunteer)</li><li>Colleagues</li><li>Mentors</li></ul> | <ul><li>Religious leaders</li><li>Personal friends</li><li>Personal counselors/therapists</li><li>Family members (even if they are Social Workers)</li></ul> |

## Social Work-Related Resume

Resumes should be two pages maximum, formatted in reverse chronological order. Include hours per week & total hours worked, city, state, and position title for all experiences.

Experiences can be job related, volunteer work, or internships. The more relevant experience you can demonstrate, the better.

Missions/religious based service typically does NOT count. For information on what counts as Social Work-related experience, visit https://socialwork.utah.edu/msw/apply/human-service.php