

# MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



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COLLEGE of  
CLINICAL *and* REHABILITATIVE  
HEALTH SCIENCES

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EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Master of Social Work program, curriculum, goals, and course of study are designed to prepare students for advanced clinical professional practice consistent with the goals, course of study, and curriculum prescribed by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) for the master's level of social work education.

There are two routes to obtaining the MSW degree: the advanced standing and traditional program options. Applicants who earned a BSW after 1984 are eligible to apply to the advanced standing program option. Applicants with degrees in other disciplines are eligible to apply to the traditional program option.

The advanced standing program option is 37-credit hours and the traditional program option is 63-credit hours.

## **ACCREDITATION**

The Department of Social Work offers fully accredited Master of Social Work (MSW) and Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programs. Our BSW degree has been continuously accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) since 1974, when BSW programs first gained accredited status. The MSW program has been continuously accredited by CSWE since the program's inception in the fall of 2003.

East Tennessee State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master's, education specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, telephone 404-679-4500, or [sacscoc.org](http://sacscoc.org), for questions about the accreditation of East Tennessee State University.



## ADMISSION

In order to apply to the MSW program, you must apply through the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies at [etsu.edu/gradschool/applynow.php](https://etsu.edu/gradschool/applynow.php).

All materials must be received by the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies prior to the listed deadline to be considered for admission. There are two sets of admission criteria, one for the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies and another for the ETSU MSW program.

### **COLLEGE OF GRADUATE AND CONTINUING STUDIES ADMISSIONS CRITERIA:**

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. Degrees from non-accredited institutions will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- A completed application.
- One official transcript from every college or university where the applicant has taken courses, except for previous course work at ETSU. Applications will not be considered without all transcripts.
- A non-refundable application fee of \$55 for domestic students or \$65 for international students. (Your application cannot be processed until the non-refundable fee is paid).
- An undergraduate minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. International students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

### **ETSU MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK ADMISSIONS CRITERIA:**

- A four-year degree from an accredited college/university (liberal arts background).
- Minimum overall GPA of 2.75 with 3.0 (4.0 scale) in the last 60 hours of bachelor's degree.
- A 150-300-word essay detailing "your interests in a graduate program at ETSU." Please specifically address your interest in the ETSU MSW program in the essay.
- Résumé detailing your academic and professional experience.
- Three references/recommendations, at least one from a previous professor/instructor or supervisor of a paid or unpaid social services agency.

# INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Field education has long been considered the heart of social work education. Most students report that their learning comes together in the field and that they have grown more comfortable and confident as they worked with “real” clients in “real” agencies. Field education provides the student with client work where they can utilize the knowledge, skills and values taught in the classroom. Students work with helping professionals in the agency and are able to watch and learn from them. All students are assigned a social work field instructor so that they can talk about the application of classroom knowledge to field experiences. Students are exposed to a variety of career possibilities and share information about their internship sites and their experiences in weekly seminars.

Advanced standing students complete a 600-hour field internship in a clinical setting. Traditional students complete two internships: the first a 480-hour generalist social work practice internship and the second is a 600-hour clinical internship.



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## For more information:



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[etsu.edu/crhs/socialwork/  
msw\\_program/](https://etsu.edu/crhs/socialwork/msw_program/)



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