



Social Work Education Field Practicum Information

The Office of Field Education at Texas State University School of Social Work coordinates all Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and Master of Social Work (MSW) foundation and advanced practice field internships. Students complete a field application, prepare a learning statement, resume, and complete a pre-placement interview with our offices to develop a student intern profile. Our offices match student interns with community agencies and organizations available to host social work student interns.

INTERNSHIPS LEVELS

- The **BSW Generalist** Field Education is a generalist field placement for undergraduate students. This field placement requires students to complete 420 clock hours during the semester. Students must achieve the following learning outcomes: 1.) assessing people and resource systems 2.) providing services and resources for people in need 3.) obtaining or linking resources for people in need 4.) demonstrate the application of social work skills and knowledge
- The **MSW Foundation** Field Education is a generalist field placement for first year graduate students. This field placement requires students to complete 360 clock hours during the semester concurrent with coursework. Students must achieve the following learning outcomes: 1.) assessing people and resource systems 2.) providing services and resources for people in need 3.) obtaining or linking resources for people in need 4.) demonstrate the application of social work skills and knowledge
- The **MSW Advanced Practice** Field Education is a specialized field placement for students completing their final degree requirements. This field placement requires students to complete 540 clock hours during the semester. The final field placement enables students to achieve the following learning outcomes: 1.) practice clinical interventions and evaluation skills with individuals, groups and families 2.) practice administrative skills in program planning, development, evaluation and grant resources 3.) practice community development skills in assessing needs, research, evidence-based practices and resource acquisition 4.) demonstrate the application of social work skills and knowledge

PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS

Field education practicum courses are credit hour courses in which student interns receive a grade for completing. Students enroll in an agency practicum course for the experiential social work application and concurrently enroll in an integrative field education seminar course.

Student interns are required to attend the integrative field education seminar which coincides with their field agency placements. Students attend on campus seminar or online seminars depending on their enrollment status. Seminar courses are taught by Texas State University School of Social Work faculty members, who are assigned to act as a liaison between the student and the agencies where students are placed. Student interns are required to complete seminar assignments and projects in conjunction with the field agency.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS

Student interns are required to develop an educational learning plan (ELP) to guide the practice experience in the agency setting. This agreement is developed at the beginning of the placement with the field agency supervisor/instructor and used during the one-on-one weekly supervision meetings to evaluate student's progress.

Student interns are evaluated two times during their field practicum assignment, a mid-term progress assessment and final evaluation based on the competencies of a professional social worker as outlined by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The agency field instructor/supervisor is responsible for overseeing the student intern's progression through the practicum and completes these evaluations.

AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

The field Agency is the location where student interns are assigned during their field practicum. Student interns should be working in areas where social work practice and related activities take place. Student intern's work responsibilities should be properly structured to support a well-developed learning experience. All field placements must enter into an affiliation agreement with Texas State University before a student intern is assigned to the field agency.

Student interns require quality supervision by an experienced BSW or MSW degreed professional with at least two years of post-graduation experience. BSW degreed professionals may only supervise BSW student interns and MSW degreed professionals may supervise both BSW and MSW student interns. Field instructors are social work practitioners in the field agency who serve as the student's supervisor and are responsible for the education of the student while in the agency.

In some instances, a task supervisor may be assigned by the field instructor to oversee student's learning objectives, evaluations, and other related activities on a day to day basis. It is the agency's responsibility to ensure a degreed social work professional is available to provide one-on-one supervision to student interns. Students should receive one on one supervision as the preferred method for professional feedback and development.

The Field instructor will develop an educational learning plan with the student intern and implement the learning experiences for the student while in the agency. The following are additional supervisory expectations:

- Conduct weekly individual supervision meetings, complete a mid-term progress and final evaluation
- Ensure that the student intern completes a weekly log of hours worked in the field and signed by the field instructor via a weekly Texas State School of Social Work timesheet
- Set student intern expectations for their place within the agency as it relates to the agency work hours and the student's work schedule, agency work culture, policies and procedures, and professional behavior
- An orientation to the agency system within the first week of beginning of internship
- Communicate regularly with Texas State University School of Social Work Field Faculty Liaison on the student's performance with at least one face-to-face meeting

The Office of Field Education will provide agencies with a comprehensive field education annual training to guide personnel on Texas State University School of Social Work student interns.

AGENCY APPRECIATION

- Field agency supervisor's/field instructors will have the opportunity to acquire continuing education credits (CEU) throughout the school year for supervising social work students within the agency.
- Field agency supervisors and instructors will have access to professional development workshops through the School of Social at Texas State University each year

OFFICE OF FIELD EDUCATION CONTACTS:

**For General Field Education Inquiries – SWField@txstate.edu
512.245.2592 School of Social Work**