Bachelor of Science in Social Work Degree

Help ensure the safety of children, help those suffering from domestic abuse or serve the underserved in your community with our Bachelor of Science in Social Work degree. You’ll gain real-world experience through our program’s supervised field education component. And since most classes in this program are just 5 weeks long, they won’t get in the way of your busy life.

**You’ll learn how to:**

- Strengthen your community by addressing social problems and advocating for social justice
- Understand and influence the policies and systems that affect people
- Gain a well-rounded, versatile social work foundation that can translate to a variety of practice settings
- Develop skills in working with individuals, families, organizations and communities
- Understand social welfare policy and applicable laws
Projected job growth:

12%
According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

What can you do with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work?

A BSSW can prepare you to be a:

- Caseworker
- Child protective services social worker
- Family protection specialist
- Family service worker
- Foster care social worker
- Youth services specialist

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job growth for social workers is projected to be faster than average between 2020 and 2030. However, it is important to note that this job growth accounts for career outcomes for professionals in bachelor’s and master’s prepared roles.

BLS projections are not specific to University of Phoenix students or graduates.

PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITATION

University of Phoenix’s Bachelor of Science in Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education’s Commission on Accreditation.

Accreditation of a baccalaureate or master’s social work program by the Council on Social Work Education’s Commission on Accreditation indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of program quality evaluated through a peer review process. An accredited program has sufficient resources to meet its mission and goals and the Commission on Accreditation has verified that it demonstrates compliance with all sections of the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards.

Accreditation applies to all program sites and program delivery methods of an accredited program. Accreditation provides reasonable assurance about the quality of the program and the competence of students graduating from the program.

For more information about social work accreditation, you may contact Accreditation.
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Total credits required: 120

Requirements and prerequisites

You'll need 120 credits to complete this bachelor of social work online. Your course schedule may vary based on transferable credits or credits earned through the University's Prior Learning Assessment.

- SWRK/200: Introduction to Social Work
- SWRK/210: Social Problems and Programs
- SWRK/220: Professional and Ethical Behaviors for Social Work Practice
- SWRK/301: Communication Techniques
- SWRK/310: Human Behavior and the Social Environment I
- SWRK/320: Social Welfare Policy and the Law
- SWRK/330: Social Work Practice: Individuals and Families
- SWRK/340: Social Work Practice: Groups
- SWRK/345: Social Advocacy: Child Endangerment and Global Factors
- SWRK/350: Social Justice and Diversity in Social Work
- SWRK/360: Social Work Practice: Communities and Organizations
- SWRK/390: Social Welfare Policy Application
- SWRK/400: Research and Evaluation in Social Work Practice
- SWRK/421: Human Behavior and the Social Environment II
- SWRK/380: Applying Social Work Practice Skills
- SWRK/405: Field Education I
- SWRK/420: Field Education II
- SWRK/460: Integration of Social Work
- SWRK/470: Social Work Capstone and Portfolio
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- GEN/201: Foundations for University Success
- PSY/110: Psychology of Learning
- ENG/110: English Composition I
- HUM/115: Critical Thinking in Everyday Life
- FP/100T: Everyday Economics and Finances
- ENG/210: English Composition II
- SOC/110: Teamwork, Collaboration, and Conflict Resolution
- SCI/220T: Human Nutrition
- HUM/186: Media Influences on American Culture
- ARTS/100: Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts
- SOC/100: Introduction to Sociology
- ENV/100T: Principles of Environmental Science
- REL/134: World Religious Traditions II
- SOC/262: Contemporary American Society
- PSY/250: Psychology of Personality
- ETH/120: Cultural Diversity in the United States
- POL/215: State and Local Political Processes
- SCI/163T: Elements of Health and Wellness

18 General Education courses

These courses lay the foundation for all our degree programs. Because communication, math and writing skills aren't just universally applicable in social work — they're useful in daily life.

2 Elective courses

Elective courses allow you to learn about topics you're interested in. That means you'll have a degree that's unique to you and your education goals.

20 Core courses

Here's where you'll pick up the bulk of your program-specific knowledge. By the time you finish these courses, you should have the confidence and skills needed in a social-work environment.

2 Field Education courses

As part of your 20 core courses, you'll be required to complete 400 hours of field education experience over two 15-week courses, Field Education I SWRK 405 and Field Education II SWRK 420.

To learn more about field education, preparation and placement, view the BSSW Field Education Handbook.

There is no in-person residency requirement for the BSSW. To learn more about class requirements and to gain a general program overview, view the BSSW Program Handbook.
What you'll learn

When you earn your online bachelor of social work, you’ll be equipped with a concrete set of skills you can apply on the job.

Download learning outcomes

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Topics covered in this degree include:

- Demonstrating ethical and professional behavior
- Engaging diversity and difference in practice
- Advancing human rights and social, economic and environmental justice
- Engaging with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities
- Assessing individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities
- Intervening with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities
- Evaluating practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities

Schedule

Your academic counselor will help you schedule courses for your online bachelor of social work.

Program Purpose Statement

The Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW) is an undergraduate degree program that provides a foundation in social work theory and teaches the application of professional social work values, principles, standards and techniques to educationally prepare graduates to pursue state licensure or certification as a bachelor’s-level social worker in select states. Licensure requirements vary by state. There may be additional qualifications and/or disqualifications applicable in order to become a social worker. See the licensure requirements and contact information for your state.

The BSSW program provides the academic preparation for bachelor’s level social work licensure or certification in select states. Students must meet the licensure requirements in any state in which they desire to practice. Bachelor’s level social work licensure or certification requirements vary by state. Program requirements may change based upon your home state’s agency licensure requirements. Please visit the social work licensure page for state specific requirements prior to reaching out to your state agency.

*While widely available, not all programs are available to residents of all states. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.

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