



WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

MASW PROGRAM

The MASW program at Wright State University will prepare students to be advanced generalist competent and ethical social workers to engage and intervene with diverse populations. The Master of Arts in Social Work (MASW) was fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in February 2021.

This fact sheet answers the most common questions being asked about WSU's MASW program. You may also contact the MASW Program Director, Melonya Cook at melonya.cook@wright.edu or call us at 937-775-2751, with any further questions or to schedule an appointment.

Q. What is the mission of this program?

A. To prepare students from the Miami Valley region to become advanced generalist social work professionals. Graduates will be lifelong learners and leaders. They will contribute to the social work profession through advanced generalist practice. Such practice emphasizes effective practice and policy skill development to promote diversity and cultural competency, social and economic justice, reduce oppression, and improve the broader human condition.

Q. What can I do with a MASW?

A. Persons graduating with a MASW are eligible to become Licensed Social Workers (LSW) and Licensed Independent Social Workers (LISW) in the state of Ohio (www.cswmft.ohio.gov). The scope of practice includes applying advanced generalist knowledge, skills, and values in direct practice, administration, and advocacy across different social service settings working with persons across the lifespan. The largest organization for social workers is the National Association of Social Workers: www.naswdc.org and www.naswoh.org. Another social work organization dedicated to the social advocacy is the Social Welfare Action Alliance: www.socialwelfareactionalliance.org

Q. If I graduate from this program am I eligible for social work licensure?

A. As a CSWE accredited program, graduates of this program will be eligible to apply for the LISW. Persons must also receive two years of post-graduate supervision from an LISW-S and pass the advanced social work exam in order to become an LISW in Ohio. Graduates can apply for the LSW upon graduation.

Licensure and certification requirements vary from state to state, and we have not determined if this program meets licensure requirements outside of Ohio. If you are planning to pursue professional licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please contact the appropriate [licensing entity](#) in that state to seek information and guidance regarding that state's licensure or certification requirements.

Q. How do I apply?

A. All persons applying to the WSU MASW will apply directly to the Graduate School at Wright State University, www.wright.edu/gradschool. You will need to complete the application, three letters of reference plus forms, and the personal statement of goals. Information on requirements is posted at wright.edu/social-work.

Q. When do I apply?

A. Applications for the Traditional MASW program are due on February 15 and applications for the Advanced Standing MASW program for eligible BSW students are due January 15. We expect a high volume of applications and will give priority to those students who apply by the deadlines.

Q. When would I start?

A. Students accepted into the Advanced Standing program will start in the Summer. Students in the Traditional MASW program will start in the Fall.

Q. Do you have specializations?

A. We have two concentration focus areas- Children and Families and Older Adults. The advanced Practice Courses in the last year and the advanced placement is geared towards the concentration focus area chosen. Students in the older adult track also have the opportunity to pursue the Gerontology certificate.

Q. When and where will the classes be taught?

A. Classes are primarily taught Monday-Thursday after 4:00 pm on WSU's Dayton campus. The classes are hybrid in nature. Summer classes usually meet during the evening but are sometimes taught during the daytime.

Q. What is the cost of the MASW program?

A. The cost of MASW program can be found on the Graduate School website at <https://www.wright.edu/graduate-school/tuition-and-fees>

Q. Is there financial aid available to cover the costs of the MASW program?

A. Financial aid is available for graduate students at WSU. Information about financial aid can be found with Raider Connect at <https://www.wright.edu/raiderconnect/financial-aid>

Q. Are there scholarships available to MASW students?

A. We have limited graduate tuition scholarships in the range of \$1000-\$2000. Preference is given to full-time students who choose Older Adults as their concentration focus area.

Q. What are the Admissions requirements for the Traditional program?

- A. In order to be admitted to the WSU MASW Program, applicants must provide transcripts from all colleges and universities attended to verify the following:
1. a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university;
 2. a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 (based on a 4.0 system) from all colleges and universities attended to ensure regular graduate status;
 3. a minimum GPA of 3.0 in social work or behavioral science courses.
 4. completion of the following behavioral science coursework:
 - a. at least one course in psychology, sociology, or anthropology;
 - b. at least one course in American history, American government, or economics;
 - c. at least one course in human biology; and
 - d. at least one course in statistics.

Q. What are the requirements for the Advanced Standing MASW Program for BSW graduates?

- A. Requirements for the Advanced Standing program are:
1. meet all the admission requirements of the Traditional MASW program;
 2. have received within the last 5 years before applying, a Bachelor of Social Work degree from a CSWE accredited program OR hold a Bachelor of Social Work degree recognized through the CSWE Recognition and Evaluation service OR hold a Bachelor of Social Work degree covered under a memorandum of understanding with international social work accreditors;
 3. have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on all previous undergraduate academic work attempted. Students must also have a “B” or better in all required undergraduate social work courses;
 4. have documentation of positive performance in field practicum from the undergraduate field instructor or social work employer.

Q. Is there a part-time program?

- A. Yes. The part time Advanced Standing Program can be spread over a 2 year period and the part-time traditional program can be spread over a 3 to 4 year period.

Q. Can I work while I am in the MASW program?

- A. The MASW program at WSU is very rigorous. We find that students who work more than 25 hours have a hard time being in the full-time program, and thus recommend taking fewer courses as a part-time student. It is also very difficult to find field placements that are outside the normal business hours (8a-5pm) so students may need to reduce their full-time work during practicum semesters.

Q. What is the time commitment per week for students in the MASW program?

	In Class	Studying
Traditional Full-Time & Advanced Standing	12-15 hrs.	18-30 hrs.
Traditional Part-Time	6-9 hrs.	18-30 hrs.
Semesters with Field Placement- 15-20 hours per week in field placement M-F 8am-5pm. Evening and weekends are rare and not expected.		

Q. What are the field education requirements?

A. Students in the Traditional program will complete 900 hours of field education across three different semesters. Students in the Advanced Standing program will complete 500 hours of field education across two different semesters. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) standards do not allow students to receive academic credit for life or work experience.

Q. Can I do my field placement at my place of work?

A. You may be able to do your field placement at your place of work, at the discretion of the Field Education Director. Factors included in the approval process include: tasks completed for placement are different from tasks completed during employment hours, placement tasks are supervised by supervisor other than your employment supervisor, and work hours and employment hours are kept entirely separate and do not overlap.

Q. Do I need to find my own placement?

A. No. The field director works in conjunction with the student to place student in appropriate agencies.

Q. What are the required courses?

A. Listed below are the titles of the courses taught in the Traditional program. Full descriptions of the courses can be found on the program websites.

Wright State University MASW Program
Sample Curriculum
Traditional Full-Time Program

Fall Semester Year 1	Spring Semester Year 1
(3 CH) Ethics, Professionalism, and Self-Care (3 CH) Human Behavior and Social Environment I (3 CH) SW Practice I (3 CH) Graduate SW Research I (3 CH) Cultural Competency in SW Practice 15 hours	(3 CH) Social Welfare Policy I (3 CH) SW Practice II (2 CH) SW Field Education I (1 CH) SW Field Education Seminar I (3 CH) SW Elective (6000 or above) 12 hours
Fall Semester Year 2	Spring Semester Year 2
(3 CH) SW Assessment & the DSM (3 CH) SW Concentration Focus Area Practice Course (2 CH) SW Field Education II (1 CH) SW Field Education Seminar II (3 CH) SW Research II 12 hours	(3 CH) Agency Administration (3 CH) SW Concentration Focus Area Policy Course (2 CH) SW Field Education III (1 CH) SW Field Education Seminar III (3 CH) SW Capstone 12 hours

Q. Where can I get more information about this program?

A. Contact Melonya Cook, WSU Social Work at 937-775-2751 or melonya.cook@wright.edu. Visit the WSU Social Work website, wright.edu/social-work.