



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

2024

Admissions Information

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the University of Maryland School of Social Work — a vibrant and inclusive community of passionate individuals dedicated to making a positive impact on society. As one of the top-ranked schools of social work in the nation, we offer a transformative educational experience that combines rigorous academic training with real-world practice. Whether you are a seasoned professional looking to advance your career or an aspiring changemaker eager to fight for social justice, our faculty, staff, and students are here to support and empower you every step of the way. We look forward to helping you navigate the path to becoming a compassionate and influential social work leader.

Applications for our Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 semesters open on September 1, 2023.

MSW PROGRAM OPTIONS

We offer a range of flexible and specialized pathways to help you achieve your academic and career goals. Explore our program choices below and find the one that best suits your needs.

Hybrid MSW Program - 60 Credits

Join our 60 credit Hybrid MSW program, designed to provide a balanced blend of in-person and online learning experiences. This program offers you the flexibility to choose your completion timeline, spanning from 2 years up to 4 years. Whether you have a background in social work or not, our foundational courses will ensure you develop a strong understanding of social work theory and practice.

Learning Format: Majority in-person or hybrid, with some online asynchronous/synchronous classes

Program Length: [2 to 4 years](#)

Campus: Available at both Baltimore and The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) campus

Concentrations: Choose between Clinical and Macro concentrations in Baltimore or Clinical at USG

Application Intake: Spring and Fall semester starts

Advanced Standing Hybrid MSW Program - 36 Credits

Already earned a Bachelor of Social Work? Our 36 credit Hybrid Advanced Standing MSW program is tailored for you. Complete your MSW degree in just 11 months and enhance your existing skills and knowledge.

Eligibility: Requires a Bachelor of Social Work degree (see below for additional information)

Program Length: [11 months to 2 years](#)

Learning Format: Majority of in-person or hybrid with some online asynchronous/synchronous classes

Campus: Available at both Baltimore and USG

Concentrations: Choose between Clinical and Macro concentrations

Application Intake: Spring and Fall semester starts

Online MSW Program - 60 Credits

Prefer the flexibility of online learning? Our 3-year, 60 credit Online MSW program allows you to complete your degree remotely while gaining the same comprehensive education as our hybrid programs. This program is ideal for students interested in the Clinical Concentration.

Program Length: [3 years](#)

Learning Format: Fully online (majority synchronous courses), with an in-person field practicum component

Concentration: Clinical

Application Intake: Fall semester start only

Concentrations

Your [concentration](#) will determine your advanced curriculum [courses](#).

- **Clinical:** provides the skills for therapeutic work with individuals and families in a variety of settings.
- **Macro:** learn to improve organizations, communities, and society through policy advocacy, organizational leadership, and community organizing within a person-first and social justice framework.

Field Practicum

In addition to coursework, in both your foundation and advanced year of study you will complete a [field practicum](#) where you apply skills learned in the classroom in a real-world setting.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

The Admissions Committee assembles the incoming class on the basis of multiple qualitative (e.g., depth, breadth, and diversity of professional and academic experience) and quantitative (e.g., academic performance) factors. Admission standards are the same for all students; therefore, you should apply for admission to the semester that best meets your needs. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact us by e-mail at admissions@ssw.umaryland.edu.

We encourage applicants to apply as early as possible beginning September 1. Minimum requirements for admission consideration and enrollment in the Master of Social Work program are listed below.

60 Credit Hybrid and Online MSW Program Admission Requirements

Applicants to the 60 credit MSW program must have:

- earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- a preferred minimum cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA). Those with lower GPAs will be reviewed, but the overall score will be adjusted accordingly
- earned a "C" or above in a minimum of two (2) three-credit courses in the behavioral and/or social sciences. These classes may include psychology, cognitive science, human development, sociology, family studies, anthropology, political science, economics, criminal justice, etc.

Additional Eligibility Information:

- December graduates are **ONLY** eligible for Fall
- Undergraduates who do not finish their degree by May 31st are **NOT** eligible for Fall
- Applicants must have completed their undergraduate degree by May 31. Any student required to take a summer course to complete their undergraduate degree is not eligible for fall admission.

36 Credit Hybrid Advanced Standing Program Admission Requirements

Applicants to the 36 credit Advanced Standing MSW program must have:

- completed an undergraduate program in social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education within the five years preceding their enrollment at our School.
- earned a minimum cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Additionally, a 3.0 grade point average is required for the last 60 credits. Please

note that grades for field practicum, if assigned on a pass/fail basis by the applicant's undergraduate program, are not included in the grade point average calculation.

- **Course Grades:** Applicants with a grade lower than a “B” in a Practice and Field Practicum class are not eligible for Advanced Standing. Advanced Standing credit is granted only for courses in which applicants earned a “B” or higher grade. Those who meet the requirements receive up to 24 semester hours of credit toward the MSW degree (this is referred to as our foundation curriculum).

Additional Eligibility Notes

- Spring Field Block-Placement: BSW applicants currently enrolled in a Spring field block-placement are *not* eligible to apply for Advanced Standing in the same academic year
- Advanced Standing (AS) students must earn the MSW within two years of their initial registration at the School of Social Work.

The Admissions Committee may accept Advanced Standing applicants into the 60 credit hybrid program. Applicants can speak with the [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#) if they wish to understand the reason for this decision after receipt of an acceptance letter.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

IMPORTANT MSW APPLICATION DEADLINES	
SPRING APPLICATION CYCLE	
<i>REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE</i> 36 Credit Hybrid Advanced Standing 60 Credit Hybrid Baltimore 60 Credit Hybrid USG	November 1
FALL APPLICATION CYCLE	
<i>PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE</i> 60 Credit Hybrid Baltimore 60 Credit Hybrid USG 60 Credit Online	January 15
<i>PRIORITY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE</i> Scholarships for incoming 60-credit students	January 15
<i>ADVANCED STANDING DEADLINE</i> 36 Credit Hybrid Advanced Standing Priority Scholarships for incoming 36-credit students	February 1

IMPORTANT MSW APPLICATION DEADLINES

<i>FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE</i> 60 Credit Hybrid Baltimore 60 Credit Hybrid USG 60 Credit Online	March 15
<i>FINAL SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE</i> Scholarships for all incoming students	March 15
<i>FIELD APPLICATION DEADLINE</i> Only for students entering field in fall semester	June 1

Important Notes about the Application

- For the 60 credit hybrid program at either the Baltimore or USG campus, choose the **FOUNDATION** application:
 - Fall-admits:
 - If you want to complete the program in two years, select **FULL TIME** as your enrollment status
 - If you want to delay the start of your Field Practicum by one year and finish your degree between 3 and 4 years, opt for **PART TIME** as your enrollment status.
 - Spring admits:
 - You can only choose **PART TIME** and finish in 2.5 years.
- For the 60 credit online program, choose the **ONLINE** application and **PART TIME** as it is a 3 year program.
- For the 36 credit hybrid advanced standing program at either the Baltimore or USG campus, choose the **ADVANCED STANDING** application
 - Fall-admits:
 - If you want to complete the program in 11 months (Fall, Spring and Summer semesters), select **FULL TIME** as your enrollment status
 - If you want to delay the start of your Field Practicum by one year and finish your degree in 2 years, opt for **PART TIME** as your enrollment status
 - Spring-admits:
 - You can only choose **PART TIME**, however you will be able to complete the program in 1 year (Spring, Fall and Spring semesters)

Official admission decisions are delivered through the online application portal and emails will be sent notifying you to log in to view the decision. Refer to table under Admissions and Enrollment Information for more details regarding timeline for admission decisions.

NOTE: Applications are reviewed only when all required documents have been received.

MSW Application Process	
Step 1	<p>CREATE AN ACCOUNT (visit www.ssw.umaryland.edu/admissions/apply/)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click “Go to Application” • Select “CREATE AN ACCOUNT” • Enter legal first and last name, email, and phone, etc. • Create username and password
Step 2	<p>COMPLETE ALL REQUIRED FIELDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select correct <u>application</u> (Social Work Foundation, Social Work Online, Social Work Advanced Standing or Social Work Transfer), <u>campus</u> (Baltimore, Shady Grove, or Online), enrollment status (full or part-time) & <u>term</u> (spring or fall) • Enter personal <u>demographic information</u> and <u>address</u> • Complete all application sections • Enter <u>personal statement</u> essay answers into matching text boxes
Step 3	<p>VERIFY AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certify application and click ‘submit’ button • Pay \$65 application fee (or submit fee waiver)
Step 4	<p>BEGIN SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to ‘My Account’ & click ‘View’ to work on supplemental items • Upload a PDF or word version of chronological resume • Request official transcripts • Enter accurate information for recommenders (2 for hybrid and online MSW program applicants, 3 for advanced standing)
Step 5	<p>COMPLETE SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign in to track application status and updates • Send reminders to recommenders • To complete application, verify all supplemental items have been received before the deadline
Step 6	<p>REVIEW ADMISSION DECISION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check email for notification of an application decision • Sign in to view the application decision • To accept offer, pay \$300 confirmation deposit • Complete all steps on the ‘Accepted Students’ webpage

Personal Statement Essays

The personal statement provides the Admissions Committee with insight into your prior experiences and how you relate these experiences to social work — and gives the Admissions Committee a sense of your ability to write and think critically. Please answer the following questions on the online application and limit each answer to 300 words. Your application is considered incomplete if these instructions are not followed.

Required MSW Program Statement

The School of Social Work seeks to enroll highly qualified students who will contribute to the profession of social work in the state, the region, the nation and internationally. Please provide answers in essay format to the questions below.

1. Describe your understanding of social work as a profession, including any relevant information from current or previous experiences (e.g. employment, volunteer, academic, and/or personal). Please also describe the reasoning behind your decision to pursue a Master of Social Work at the University of Maryland.
2. Define a social problem affecting a population of specific interest to you that you would want to work with in the future. Please examine the relevancy of the problem to the field of social work, how you came to identify and understand it as a social problem, societal factors that have contributed to the problem. Also address specific ways that you, as a social worker, could address the problem.
3. Social workers are expected to work with individuals, families, groups, and communities from diverse backgrounds in a caring and respectful fashion. What is your idea of diversity? Talk about an environment you've been in that flourished in or lacked diversity. How did it impact you?

Additional Online MSW Program Statement

Online MSW applicants must also submit the following:

1. What experience have you had learning in an online environment? Please discuss how you thrived, and also how you managed any challenges you encountered.
2. Based on your experiences learning online, what measures will you put into place to balance the required online coursework and in-person field practicum experiences with any other competing life priorities?

Additional Advanced Standing Statement

Advanced Standing applicants must also submit a case plan with the following information:

Please choose a direct practice example on individuals, group, family or organization and describe it, disguising names and identifying information. Please introduce the example with a brief paragraph describing the agency, its function, and its purpose.

Case Plan description headings should include:

- Brief Agency description
- Assessment: a summary of the essential case data (age, ethnicity, race, presenting problem, history of the problem, coping abilities. If group or organization, describe the type of group/organization, membership make up, and purpose).
- Case plan: describe the plan and how it relates to the assessment evaluation.
- Interventions: describe and analyze your practice interventions and how they are related to the case plan or assessment formulation.

Optional Statement

Please address any other considerations (e.g. previous academic performance, financial, balancing work, family, and/or other commitments with school) that you would like the Admissions Committee to be aware of when reviewing your application.

Applicants who have an undergraduate GPA of 2.99 or below, please use this optional statement space to explain how your previous/current educational experience helped you develop strategies to successfully maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA in our MSW program.

Applicants who are reapplying after being dismissed from the MSW program, or who have been dismissed from another graduate program, should follow the additional instructions under the section *Readmission and Reinstatement after Dismissal*.

Application Fees

Applicants must submit a \$65 nonrefundable application fee that cannot be waived unless you meet certain requirements, as outlined below:

Application Fee Waiver

The application fee will be waived only for applicants who verify participation in the following programs:

- Americorps (Teach for America, Public Allies, VISTA)
- Peace Corps (PC)
- TRIO McNair or SSS Scholars
- Veteran/Active Military
- Fulbright

NOTE: Do not pay the non-refundable application fee if you wish to receive a fee waiver.

Members and alumni of these programs are considered excellent candidates to enter the helping profession of social work as they have already demonstrated an interest in working with systemically disenfranchised and/or marginalized populations.

To receive a fee waiver, applicants must submit the appropriate documentation (acceptance letter/email or completion of service) to Admissions Recruiter, Ms.

[Camille Johnson](#). Likewise, veterans should submit a copy of their DD214 form, while active-duty members are required to provide written proof of their current service.

Supplemental Application Items

Transcripts

Applicants must submit official transcripts from each college and university attended. This includes every post-secondary institution attended (including study abroad), even if the credits appear on another institution's transcript. We require official transcripts to be sent electronically, if possible, to Admissions Recruiter, Ms. [Camille Johnson](#), or by mail at University of Maryland School of Social Work, c/o Office of Admissions, 525 W. Redwood St., Baltimore, MD 21201. Final transcript submissions deadline for new incoming students is July 15.

If you are applying for fall and you are currently enrolled in an undergraduate program, no decision will be made until we receive fall semester grades. If you are attending an institution with a nontraditional (e.g., trimester, yearlong courses), you must write to the School's [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#) to request an adjustment to this requirement.

References

- **Applicants for the 60 credit MSW program** must provide two references, usually including professors, employers, supervisors, and professional colleagues. They will be asked to comment on your academic aptitude, ability to work with others, capacity for self-development, and dependability. Do not ask friends or relatives for references. The application will include instructions on how to submit references.
- **Applicants for the 36 credit Advanced Standing program** must provide three references, two from the following:
 - **Recommendation by Department Chair:** Applicants must be recommended for Advanced Standing by their undergraduate social work department chair. The Advanced Standing recommendation form must be completed and signed by the department chairperson.
 - **Recommendation by Field Supervisor:** A reference letter and form must be completed and signed by the field supervisor. Those who graduated more than 1 year ago and currently working in the social work profession can have their supervisor complete the form and letter instead.

Resume

All applicants are required to submit a chronological resume of two pages or less. Be sure to include paid or volunteer experience, internships, and/or field placements.

Additional Application Requirements

Transfer Credits from Another MSW Program

Under certain circumstances, students may receive a maximum of 30 credits for work completed at a CSWE-accredited graduate school of social work, and for which a grade of at least a “B” was earned. The coursework cannot be more than five years prior to the first registration at UMB. The entire MSW program, including transfer credits and UMB coursework, must be completed within five years. Students must complete a minimum of 30 credits at the University of Maryland School of Social Work to be eligible for the master’s degree.

Students currently or previously enrolled in another accredited master’s-level social work degree program who are seeking admission as transfer students are required to submit the following additional materials:

- A brief written statement describing why they are requesting a transfer
- One of the recommendations must be from the applicant’s current/former faculty advisor and must address the applicant’s academic standing in the program.

Transfer Credit for Field Education

Students who would like transfer credit for their previous Field Education practicum experience at another MSW program will be asked for the following criteria:

1. Review of MSW field program requirements:
 - a. Program Field Manual
 - b. Curriculum/assignment descriptions/syllabi for each completed semester of field
 - c. Templates for Learning agreements for each semester, based on CSWE competencies
2. Review of student performance in field:
 - a. Completed learning agreement – fall semester
 - b. Completed final field assessment and grade -- fall semester
 - c. A sample completed process recording
 - d. Record of attendance in field placement and/or seminar classes
 - e. Field Liaison Visit/Contact assessment or notes
 - f. Letter from current field instructor reflecting on student performance

Transfer Credit from Another Master’s Program

A student may request to receive a maximum of 6 transfer (elective) credits for a course in which a grade of “A” or “B” was earned in another discipline, within four years prior to enrollment in the MSW program. Each course will be individually assessed for social work relevancy and official determination of allowable credit will be made at the time of admission. A course that is considered to have content equivalent to the required course, but has only 2 credits, may be accepted for transfer. The student will be exempt from taking that course, but must take the additional credit. Students transferring courses from a quarterly system must also make up the difference in credits.

Transfer Credit for Work Experience

The Council on Social Work Education **does not allow** accredited MSW programs to provide credit for work experience. However, experience does make for a stronger applicant in the admissions process and a more successful student.

Applicants with International Credentials

An applicant with international educational credentials must provide the Office of Admissions with a document that translates the credentials into English, evaluates the degree for equivalency to degrees awarded in the United States, and provides information to enable the interpretation of grades. Respected sources for the required documentation include:

- [World Education Services](#)
- [The Knowledge Company](#)
- [Educational Credential Evaluators](#)

English Proficiency

International applicants must submit credentials for evaluation and take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) in time to have the results reach us by the application deadline. To demonstrate English proficiency, a minimum TOEFL score of 94 is required of applicants for whom English is not their native language. TOEFL scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service to the School. Minimum IELTS score needed is 7. For more information contact:

- [Educational Testing Service](#) Institution code: 6592
- [IELTS USA](#)

An applicant with international educational credentials in social work may also provide the Office of Admissions an equivalency determination document from: [Foreign Equivalency Determination Service Council on Social Work Education](#)

English Proficiency Waiver

At the discretion of the [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#), a TOEFL/IELTS waiver can be given to students who have earned acceptable grades from another U.S. college or university or if their bachelor's degree was received from an international college/university with an approved English-based curriculum.

Applicants with Criminal Legal Systems Involvement

Why do we ask about your criminal legal systems involvement?*

We value the lived experiences of students with CL involvement and want our student body to include students with such experiences. We want to give you, like all other applicants, the best possible consideration for admission. In addition, we want to ensure you understand potential implications of CL involvement (such as limitations in field placements, and requirement to complete a criminal history records check for social work licensure).

What is required for consideration of admission to the MSW program for applicants with CL involvement?

- 1) Completed MSW Application
- 2) Submit answers to CL involvement questionnaire to the [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#)
- 3) Documentation of CL involvement

An information meeting may be required.

CL Involvement Questionnaire:

Please answer each applicable question in no more than 3-5 sentences:

- What are the ways in which your CL involvement is an asset to the school and social work field?
- What are the ways in which your CL involvement can impact MSW field placement opportunities?
- If you are currently under community supervision (such as probation or parole), do you have any restrictions that might impact field? (license, required meetings, etc) (Skip if not applicable)
- Are there any restrictions on your driver's license due to CL involvement? If so, what other modes of transportation will you use?
- What are the ways in which your CL involvement may impact MSW licensure in the state you are intending to practice?
- What type of support system will you have in Maryland (e.g. friends , family, religious organizations, other)?
- Since the time of your last involvement with the CL, please describe any changes you have observed within your personal and/or professional life.
- Optional: Is there anything else you would like us to know about your CL involvement?

Documentation of CL involvement

Upon receipt of your MSW application, the Dean of Admissions will follow up with a request for documentation of criminal convictions, completion of community supervision (if applicable) and/or pending criminal charges. In lieu of court documentation, applicants may submit an official Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) report. Note: A CJIS report may include additional information that is not required (for example, arrests without conviction, or probation before judgment).

Information Meeting

After review of all required documentation, students may be asked to attend an information meeting to clarify information the applicant provided; answer any questions the applicant may have; discuss potential challenges to field placement and social work licensure and any concerns the student may have related to how CL involvement may impact the MSW experience or ability to practice as a social worker; and discuss how the school can support the student in their MSW

education. After the information meeting, applicants will be contacted by the Dean of Admissions and informed of their admission status.

Readmission and Reinstatement after Dismissal

Following the required 2-year waiting period, students may be eligible for a one-time request for reinstatement via the process below:

1. Complete an application for admission to the School
2. Communicate their intention to apply for reinstatement in writing to the [Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment](#)
3. Submit a one-time request for reinstatement by completing the [Reinstatement Request Form](#). As part of the reinstatement request, students are expected to describe the changes they have or will make in their academic preparation and strategies that will improve their potential for successfully completing their program.

The Reinstatement Review Committee, a subcommittee of the UMSSW Admissions Committee, reviews requests for readmission and reinstatement and may request the student participate in an interview. Decisions are communicated to the student directly. Decisions are binding and not eligible for appeal.

Students who are readmitted will work with a representative from Student Affairs to create a customized plan to support academic success. The readmitted student must also meet with the academic advisor prior to the start of their returning semester.

Students who are approved for reinstatement will be readmitted on academic probation status and must be in good academic standing, with a GPA of at least 3.0 within one semester. Reinstated students who do not achieve good academic standing will be dismissed without possibility of future reinstatement.

Dismissal from Another Program

Applicants who indicate on their application form that they have been dismissed from a graduate program must use the Optional Statement to describe their understanding of the grounds for dismissal and their plans for success if accepted.

Tuition and Financial Aid

Tuition Costs (2023-2024 Academic Year)*

Residency Status	Per Credit Hour
MD Residents	\$676
Non-MD Residents	\$1,307

Tuition for MSW students is structured on a per-credit basis, offering the flexibility to adjust the course load each semester and even take summer courses without incurring extra costs. For a comprehensive understanding of tuition and associated fees based on your chosen campus, please refer to the detailed breakdown available on the [UMB website](#).

**Subject to change for the 2024-2025 academic year*

Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)

Do not wait until you have been offered admission to apply for FAFSA. Upon submitting your application to the program, you should also submit the [Federal Application for Student Aid](#) (FAFSA) online and list the University of Maryland Baltimore (School Code: **002104**). The Financial Aid Office will review your FAFSA and send you an email with your aid package. Students have a certain amount of time during which to accept any amount of aid and should contact the [financial aid office](#) with any questions or concerns.

Financial Aid Advice for Social Work Applicants

To apply for federal or state aid or be eligible for scholarship funding, you must file a [FAFSA](#) online beginning in December. March 1 is the priority deadline. Filing after March 1 may reduce the type of aid you are awarded as well as affect receiving living expenses by the first day of instruction. Spring applicants should complete the FAFSA at the time they apply.

- You will be notified of your eligibility for financial aid only after you receive an offer of admission and submit the confirmation fee.
- Graduate students who meet federal need standards may be eligible for subsidized Stafford loans, which are interest-free during the time a student is enrolled at least half time.
- Graduate students who file early and demonstrate substantial need may also be eligible for Perkins loans, federal work study, and limited grant or scholarship dollars. Students enrolled for 6 to 8 credits may be eligible to receive federal loans.

Scholarships

The School offers a variety of merit and other scholarships each year for incoming and continuing students. To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must submit a separate scholarship application. Only applicants who have submitted a complete application for the MSW program are eligible to apply for scholarships. The deadlines for scholarships for incoming and foundation students are:

60-credit hybrid and online program: the priority deadline for scholarship is January 15 and the final deadline is March 15.

36-credit hybrid advanced standing: the priority deadline for scholarship is February 1 and the final deadline is March 15.

If you do not apply for scholarships by this deadline, you will not be considered.

For more information, visit the [scholarship webpage](#).

Want More Information?

For more information about our MSW program or to learn about [timelines](#), [requirements or processes for admission](#), please reach out to Admissions Recruiter, Camille Johnson at camille.johnson@ssw.umaryland.edu.

If you are interested in learning more about our new [Online MSW Program](#), please contact Nakiya Schurman, Director of the Online MSW Program, at nschurman@ssw.umaryland.edu.

Attending an information session is another great way to learn about our MSW program at Baltimore, USG or Online. [Explore the options and reserve your space](#) and review our [FAQ page](#).

ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Notifications and Acceptance of Admission

The SSW notifies applicants of the Admissions Committee's decision via email. Applicants log in to the student portal to view the decision.

PROGRAM	TERM	DEADLINE	DECISION BY
60-credit Hybrid	Spring (part-time only)	Nov 1	Dec 1
	Fall (full & part-time)	Priority – Jan 15 Final – March 15	Priority – March 1 Final – May 1
36-credit Hybrid Advanced Standing	Spring (part-time only)	Nov 1	Dec 1
	Fall (full & part-time)	Feb 1	March 1
60-credit Online	Fall (part-time only)	Priority – Jan 15 Final – March 15	Priority – March 1 Final – May 1

To reserve your space in the program, pay the \$300 non-refundable confirmation deposit no later than June 1st for Fall enrollment and December 15th for Spring enrollment.

Applicants must respond to a written offer of admission for a specific semester. To accept or decline the offer of admission, applicants must log in to the application portal, accept or decline the offer, and pay the \$300 confirmation deposit if the intent is to enroll or defer admission. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of admission. Admitted students may not change from full-time to part-time status, or vice versa, without the approval of the [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#). Provided that the confirmation deposit has been paid, a request for a change in status

does not jeopardize the original offer of admission; however, no guarantees can be made as to availability.

Provisional Admits

Offers of admission to currently enrolled undergraduates are made pending receipt of final transcripts showing the award of a bachelor's degree. All official awards of Advanced Standing are made pending receipt of the final transcript showing the award of the Bachelor's of Social Work degree, continued recommendation of the undergraduate program, and evidence that all other criteria have been met.

Steps Once Accepted

In the notification of acceptance, students are directed to a [webpage for accepted students](#). Students must follow all the important steps to ensure admission and proper enrollment into the MSW Program. Steps will include:

- **Step One** — Pay the \$300 [confirmation deposit](#)
- **Step Two** — Tuition and Fees-Related Forms
 - [FAFSA application](#) opens October 1 (School code 002104)
 - [Tuition Classification Form](#) (In-State Residency)
- **Step Three** — Submit [field placement application](#) (no later than the June 1st deadline.)
- **Step Four** — Immunization Requirements and Health Insurance Plan
 - [Health Insurance or Waiver](#)
 - [Health Immunization Forms](#)
- **Step Five** — Begin mandatory Pre-Requisite [A Brief History of Oppression & Resistance](#)
- **Step Six** — [Register](#) for classes, [Important Dates](#), and [Exemption Exams](#)
- **Step Seven** — Attend mandatory [Orientation](#), Apply for Student ID — [One Card](#)

Deferring Enrollment

Accepted students who have paid their confirmation deposit can defer their enrollment to the following semester or year. Accepted students can request a deferral only once. Send a request to the [Associate Dean, Admissions and Enrollment](#) (include deferral reason, deferral term, and deferral status (full or part-time). The deferral deadline for new incoming fall students is August 1. Incoming spring students must defer by January 5.

VA Educational Benefits

Students attending the School of Social Work using [Veterans Education and Training Benefits](#) may receive assistance with enrollment certification at the SSW Office of Records and Registration.

Student-Right-To Know

Any student using Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill or Chapter 32 Voc Rehab benefits, (even if the VA has not yet paid tuition and fees), the University of Maryland Baltimore policy will allow the following: enrollment, no assessment of late fees or penalties, no requirement to secure additional funding, and access to the same school resources as other students who have paid.

These students will be required to produce the VA's Certificate of Eligibility by the first day of class, provide a written request to be certified, and provide any additional information needed to be properly certified with the VA.

Testing out of Foundation Coursework (Exemption Exams)

Newly admitted and confirmed foundation have the opportunity to take [exemption examinations](#) for three foundation courses:

SOWK 600 — Social Welfare and Social Policy [3 credits]

SOWK 645 — Human Behavior and the Social Environment [3 credits]

SOWK 670 — Social Work Research [3 credits]

The exemption exams allow students who believe they have already covered the content in these courses to place out of one or more of them. If a student successfully passes an exemption exam and is exempted from a course, they must substitute it with another elective course. Note: even with exemptions, students must complete a total of 60 credits at the School to earn their MSW degree. However, successful exemptions can alter the distribution of credits, providing students with more elective credit options. Students who receive exemptions should consult the academic advisor for guidance and assistance in planning their program.

Incoming Student Pre-Requisite Course (SOWK 690)

This set of self-paced online prerequisite courses will help prepare you for the journey toward earning your MSW. All newly admitted MSW students are required to complete these prerequisites before the first day of classes.

Please note that it will take up to 35 hours to complete all THREE prerequisite modules in total.

1. Blackboard Orientation (2 hours)

- The Blackboard technology orientation will help familiarize you with the best way to get support, get connected, view Blackboard content, upload assignments, participate in discussions, take quizzes, and all other primary functions.

2. A Brief History of Oppression and Resistance (15-30 hours*)

- A Brief History of Oppression and Resistance provides important context and foundational knowledge for social work students who will be learning and practicing in Maryland. Completing this course is an assignment for

SOWK 610 (Structural Oppression and Its Implications for Social Work) and will help prepare you for your coursework here at the School of Social Work. It should be completed prior to beginning your semester.

- Journal assignments that are integrated into the prerequisite will need to be submitted in SOWK 610.

3. UMB Academic Integrity & Anti-Plagiarism Tutorial (2 hours)

- This tutorial reviews important concepts related to Academic Integrity, including what it is, various forms of plagiarism, avoiding plagiarism, and rules for citing research and others' work.

Campus Transfer Policy

At the School of Social Work, students play a crucial role in shaping their educational journey by choosing a specific campus for their studies: Baltimore, Shady Grove, or Online. This decision forms a fundamental commitment that students are expected to uphold upon acceptance of their admission letter. It is essential to recognize that both the Shady Grove and Online campuses typically admit a maximum number of students, making it unfeasible to assume available vacancies. While we understand the desire for flexibility, transferring between campuses within the School is a rare occurrence, with the exception being transfers into the Baltimore campus.

Important Note: Changing your campus will result in adjustments to campus-related fees.

Disability Accommodations

If you would like to request classroom and/or field accommodations for a disability, please contact the University's Office of Educational Support and Disability Services at 410-706-5889 or disabilityservices@umaryland.edu. More information is available at www.umaryland.edu/disabilityservices.

Housing

There are several sources of housing for students attending the Baltimore campus: University-owned housing on campus, privately owned apartments and rowhouses near the campus, nearby neighborhoods, and neighborhoods within commuting distance. The University also maintains listings of off-campus housing. For more information about housing options, contact the [Housing Office](#).

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SSW

Accreditation

The University of Maryland, Baltimore is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (267-284-5000)). Both the baccalaureate program (offered at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County campus) and Master of Social Work program (offered at the School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore) are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the authorized professional accrediting body for social work in the United States.

Nondiscrimination Policy

The University of Maryland, Baltimore does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, marital status, veteran's status or age in its programs and activities.

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Statement and Guiding Principles

Social Work holds a longstanding value of upholding and working toward social justice for all peoples. We are a welcoming community working for social justice on campus and in the world. We must examine racism and other forms of oppression beyond the actions of individuals, for it is embedded in the very fabric of our society.

We acknowledge that racism and many forms of oppression exists. As we move towards being an anti-racist and anti-oppressive organization, we vow to purposefully identify, discuss and challenge issues of racism, sexism, ableism, homophobia, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and other forms oppression and interrogate how the impact(s) they have on our organization, its systems, and its people. We will also challenge ourselves to understand and correct any inequities we may discover and gain a better understanding of ourselves during this purposeful process.

We are resolved to explicitly and publicly affirm our transformation into an anti-racist and anti-oppressive academic department.

We are resolved that our commitment to anti-racism and anti-oppression be reflected in the life and culture of the department through our policies, programs and practices as we continue to learn about racism.

We resolve to develop and work to implement strategies that dismantle racism and oppression within all aspects of our department, college, university, and society.

Last Updated: 9/8/2023