



## Social Work Education Practicum Information

The Field Education Office of the 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 cover letter, resume, and complete a pre-field interview with our offices to develop a student intern profile. Our offices match student interns up with community agencies and organizations available to host social work student interns.

### INTERNSHIPS LEVELS

- The **BSW** Field Education is a generalist field placement for undergraduate students. This field placement requires students to complete 500 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 hour 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 letter grade for completing. Students enroll in an agency practicum course and the field education seminar course simultaneously.

Student interns are required to attend a field education seminar once a week that coincides with their field agency placements. Seminar courses are taught by Texas State University School of Social Work faculty members. 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 agreement to guide the practice experience in the agency setting. This agreement is developed at the beginning of the placement with the field agency 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 assessment and final evaluation based on the competencies of a professional social worker. The agency instructor/supervisor is responsible for overseeing the student intern's progression through the practicum, 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. 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 the event the agency does not have a supervisor that meets these criteria, a task supervisor will be assigned to oversee the student's learning objectives, evaluations, and other related activities. Texas State School of Social Work will assign a preceptor (educational coordinator) to the agency to ensure a degreed social work professional is available to provide one-on-one supervision to student interns.

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

- Conduct weekly supervision meetings, complete a mid-term and final evaluation
- Ensure that the student intern completes a weekly log of hours worked in the field and signed by the field instructor
- 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
- An orientation to the agency system
- Communicate regularly with Texas State University School of Social Work personnel on the student's performance with at least one face-to-face meeting

## AGENCY APPRECIATION

- Field agency supervisor's/field instructors receive five (5) continuing education credits (CEU) per semester for supervising social work student interns
- Field agency supervisors and instructors will have access to professional development workshops through the School of Social at Texas State University in the fall of each year
- Annual field agency appreciation event to recognize partners in the community

## OFFICE OF FIELD EDUCATION SUPPORT

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