MSW

Pacific’s Master of Social Work (MSW) program is a two-year graduate/professional degree. Students may enter the MSW with any undergraduate major as long as they meet the admission criteria for the MSW.

Students interested in pursuing the MSW should seek out opportunities for community engagement and field experience during their undergraduate years.

Students earning a BA or BS from Pacific University are guaranteed an admissions interview for Pacific’s MSW. Students with a BS or BA from Pacific will apply to our two-year Master of Social Work Program.

Students earning a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) undergraduate degree may be eligible for “advanced standing” in the MSW. Advanced Standing reduces the time to the master’s degree to one year. A BSW does not guarantee acceptance into the MSW program or acceptance with advanced standing. Students with a Pacific University BSW are guaranteed an admission interview, guaranteed consideration for Advanced Standing and will have their MSW application fee waived. Preference will be given to Advanced Standing those students who completed their baccalaureate degrees no more than five years prior to application. If students completed their baccalaureate degree in social work more than five years before applying to the MSW program, they must demonstrate that they have engaged in continuing education and professional social work practice during a majority of the years since their baccalaureate education.

Students who obtained their BSW from Pacific University will have their application fees waived.

Students interested in the MSW should contact the MSW Admissions Officer at MSW@pacificu.edu. Please note: the MSW program is located on our Eugene campus. Classes are held two days a week to allow students to commute from the surrounding area and region.
The academic prerequisites for admission to the MSW program include:

- an earned bachelor’s degree
- a last 45 semester hour GPA must of 3.00 or higher and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75. Exceptions may be granted by the Admissions Committee if a student’s most recent grades show significant improvement over earlier ones. For example, if an applicant had a 2.4 GPA for the first 45 semester credits and a 3.5 GPA in the next 45 semester credits, he or she would be given serious consideration.
- excellent oral and written communication skills
- a passion for helping others
- participation in community programs, leadership experience, and the ability to work as an effective team member

Liberal Arts Requirements: While specific courses are not required, ideally, applicants will have completed a minimum of **two courses** from **each** of the following three categories:

- **Natural Sciences:** Examples include Anatomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, and Statistics.

- **Social and Behavioral:** Examples include Anthropology, Latino Studies, Counseling, Economics, History, Human Development, Public Health, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Women’s Studies.

- **Humanities and Arts:** Examples include Art History, Film Studies, Oral Communication, Critical Thinking, Dance, English, Foreign Language, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Religion, Sign Language, and Theatre.
Students interested in pursuing the MSW should seek out opportunities for community engagement and field experience during their undergraduate years. The Center for Civic Engagement can help students find appropriate field experiences.