

# BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Faculty of Health and Community Studies

School of Social Work

MacEwan.ca/BSW (<http://%E2%80%8BMacEwan.ca/BSW>)

The Bachelor of Social Work program provides 3rd and 4th year undergraduate degree studies and will be of interest to Alberta Social Work diploma graduates and other students who have completed 60 university level Arts and Science credits. The School of Social Work offers transformative, collaborative and supportive education to prepare students for leadership roles in meeting the social justice mandate of the profession of social work. As professionals in a country that upholds respect for diversity, and in keeping with democratic rights and freedoms, social workers respect the distinct systems of beliefs and lifestyles of individuals, families, groups, communities and nations without prejudice (United Nations Centre for Human Rights, 1992). Specifically, social workers do not tolerate discrimination based on age, abilities, ethnic background, gender, language, marital status, national ancestry, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic status (CASW *Code of Ethics*, 2005).

Unique to this degree is the focus on sustainability – how social, environmental and economic issues interrelate, and how we fit into the larger community. Students have the opportunity to focus their studies around a number of themes, including working with children and families, working with Indigenous people, health and mental health, and community social work practice. Students learn from faculty who are engaged in research, blended learning and all areas of social work practice.

## Career Potential

Graduates of the program are eligible to apply to the Alberta College of Social Workers to become registered social workers (RSW). Graduates will have strong critical thinking skills and be prepared to work in a wide and diverse range of settings, making valuable contributions to the health and safety of children and families, supporting the development of a vibrant and healthy workforce, and providing leadership in the area of social and environmental sustainability.

## Transferability

All courses completed for the Bachelor of Social Work degree are credit courses and may be individually transferable toward further study at other post-secondary institutions. For current, detailed information on individual course transferability, refer to the Learner Pathways System at [www.transferalberta.ca](http://www.transferalberta.ca) or contact the receiving institution directly.

## Contact Information

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E: [bsw@macewan.ca](mailto:bsw@macewan.ca)

### PROGRAM OFFICE

Robbins Health Learning Centre

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T: 780-497-5154

## Categories of Admission

Applicants may be admitted to one of the following:

### Regular Admission

To be evaluated through the Office of the University Registrar

1. a) Applicants must have completed MacEwan University's Social Work Diploma (or equivalent) with a minimum Admission Grade Point Average (AGPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

OR

- b) Applicants must have completed 60 university-level credits with a minimum Admission Grade Point Average (AGPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and must have completed the following courses:

- Three credits of university-level English
- Six credits of university-level course work from anthropology, political science, psychology or sociology
- SOWK 240: Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (or equivalent) with a minimum grade of C-

## Additional Admission Criteria

All applicants must meet the following:

### 1. English Language Proficiency

To be evaluated through the Office of the University Registrar

#### Applicable to all admission categories

All applicants must meet an acceptable level of English language proficiency. We will require official documents such as high school or post-secondary transcripts or proof of successful completion of standardized language evaluation. Full details are available in MacEwan University's academic calendar or online at [www.macewan.ca/elp](http://www.macewan.ca/elp).

### 2. Other Admission Criteria

To be evaluated through the Program

#### Applicable to all admission categories

Applicants are required to submit the following to be assessed by faculty from the School of Social Work:

1. Resume
2. Personal/professional profile and essay
3. Evidence of a minimum 70 hours social service volunteer or work experience within the last two years
4. Two letters of reference
  - Social Work diploma applicants-one reference from the Social Work program, and one reference from the applicant's most recent field placement agency supervisor or employer if working in the social work field.
  - All other applicants-one reference from a social service volunteer or work experience, and one academic reference (preferred) or a general reference if it is not possible to provide an academic reference.

Applicants offered admission are required to submit the following:

- A clear Police Information Check (or equivalent from another policing agency) that includes a Vulnerable Sector Search. The Police Information Check must be submitted by the published

document deadline and have been issued within three months of the start of the program intake term.

- An Alberta Intervention Record Check (or equivalent from another province/territory). The Intervention Record Check must be submitted by the published document deadline.

## Programs of Study

- Social Work Post-Diploma (<https://calendar.macewan.ca/programs-study/bachelor-degrees/bachelor-social-work/social-work-post-diploma>)
- University Credit Transfer (<https://calendar.macewan.ca/programs-study/bachelor-degrees/bachelor-social-work/university-credit-transfer-major>)

## Program Regulations

Students are strongly encouraged to seek advice from a faculty or university advisor about program planning for completing degree requirements at MacEwan University.

### Progression of Studies

Course registration is required for attendance in all program courses. Students who have had a break in the continuity of their program may have additional course requirements to establish course currency.

### Agency-Specific Requirements

Students must be able to meet requirements for immunizations prior to the start of all practicum courses if required by their field placement agency. Students may be required to complete additional agency-specific certifications as a prerequisite for practicum experiences.

### Program Standards

Students admitted to this program are presumed to be capable of fulfilling the academic requirements of their program with, if applicable, provision of reasonable accommodation. The reasonable accommodation of students with disabilities shall not require the University to lower its standards, academic or otherwise, nor shall it relieve a student of the responsibility to develop and demonstrate the essential skills and competencies expected of all students pursuing the program (policy E3400, Students with Disabilities).

## Regulations Governing Field Practicum (Work Integrated Learning)

Students must achieve satisfactory performance in all field placement courses in accordance with the course learning outcomes and grading criteria. Field placement hours may include days, evenings and weekends. Students are required to arrange their own transportation for required field placement activities and any costs incurred for meals, travel, parking and accommodation are the student's responsibility. Students will require daily access to a vehicle for any practice experience not accessible through public transportation. Required field placements will generally be within a 150 km radius of the MacEwan University site. Students cannot be in attendance at field placement agencies as a MacEwan University student except at times and locations authorized by the field placement course instructor for the course in which the student is currently enrolled. Students must comply with policy C2060 Work Integrated Learning regarding field placements. Students must have completed all prerequisite courses as well as all program and agency specific requirements (i.e. which could include vaccinations and supporting documents) prior to the start of any field placement course. In accordance with policy C2060 Work Integrated Learning, the

University reserves the right, at any point during a field placement, to remove a student from the placement for serious performance issues (i.e. engaging in behaviors that place a client and/or others at risk or that is contrary to the professional or safety requirements of the placement). In such cases and with the concurrence of the Dean, the student will be assigned a grade of F in the course. Although this decision may be appealed according to policy E3103 Student Appeals, the student will not be permitted to remain in the field placement during the appeal.

### Police Information Check

A student must meet the specific Security Clearance / Police Information Check requirements, including a Vulnerable Sector and Intervention Check, as set out in the admission criteria for the duration of the program, or they may be required to withdraw from the program. Students must be able to satisfy agency requirements prior to the start of each field placement.