

APPLICANT CONTRACT REGARDING ETHICS AND PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

All applicants to the CSUN MSW Program should read and confirm their understanding of the following: *(Please sign your initials next to each area indicating that you have read, understand and agree to the terms and conditions stated. Then scan and upload the signed form to the online application system.)*

- _____ *Initials*
1. Participation and successful completion of a graduate, professional social work program requires a significant commitment of time, energy, financial resources, and physical and emotional health. The two-year, full-time on campus MSW program includes fifteen units of coursework per semester and a minimum of sixteen hours per week (first year, Fall and Spring terms) and twenty hours per week (second year, Fall and Spring terms) of field work to be performed during regular business hours (8am-6pm, Monday-Friday) for Fall and Spring terms. The two-year, full-time online MSW program includes fifteen units of coursework per semester and a minimum of sixteen hours per week of field work for both the first and second-year placements (Fall and Spring terms) to be performed during regular business hours (8am-6pm, Monday-Friday). The three-year, part-time MSW program (both on-campus and off-campus) includes six to nine units of coursework per semester (including Summer terms) and sixteen hours per week of field work for both first and second-year placements (Fall, Spring and Summer terms for the first year; Fall and Spring for the second year) to be performed during regular business hours (8am-6pm, Monday-Friday). Program schedules are subject to change based on University and Department resources.
- _____ *Initials*
2. The applicant acknowledges that the on-campus programs are considered state-support programs whereas the online and off-campus programs are considered self-support programs. This may result in differences found in cohort tuition cost, eligibility for various types of financial aid and grants, and/or eligibility for other types of resources and services (ie. limited stipend opportunities that have specific eligibility criteria). If offered admission, it is the applicant's responsibility to clarify which type of aid, resources, and services they may be eligible for based upon their cohort choice prior to joining the program.
- _____ *Initials*
3. Based on faculty and administration educational and/or professional judgment, the MSW Program reserves the right to reject an applicant, or to dismiss an admitted student, whose academic record or performance in field practicum does not meet minimum expectations, or whose performance is not consistent with the accepted standards for professional behavior. If admitted, applicants will be required to complete the MSW field application process which includes a field interview. Off-campus applicants will be required to participate in a face-to-face interview on the CSUN campus. Online applicants will be required to participate in an interview via Skype or equivalent technological face-to-face method. The applicant agrees to accept the field placements assigned by the field faculty. Students are required to complete two separate field placements at two different locations, with each placement occurring over the course of an academic year. Students are not permitted to change field placements during the course of either academic year without permission of the director of field education. Students must be able to commit to their assigned field placement location for the duration of each academic year. The applicant agrees to make themselves available during and between semesters for interviews and other necessary field placement processes.
- _____ *Initials*
4. If admitted, the applicant understands that it may be necessary to complete field practicum prerequisites in order to confirm a field placement site. Placement agencies may require security background investigations, fingerprint checks, random drug screens, physical examinations, TB tests, immunization verification, a valid CA driver's license (or for online students, a driver's license valid in the student's state of residence), etc. The applicant should understand that they are responsible for the costs associated with field practicum prerequisites. Failure to meet prerequisite requirements and/or secure a field placement may result in dismissal from the MSW Program.
- _____ *Initials*
5. The MSW program offers a generalist approach to working with urban families and focuses on educating and training students to be competent professional social workers with a diverse set of skills and experiences. As such, students may have placements in micro, mezzo and/or macro settings.

Initials

6. The MSW Program requires applicants and subsequently admitted students to maintain and abide by the Professional NASW Code of Ethics ([click here](#)) and maintain a record void of misdemeanors, convictions, felonies, or disciplinary actions by any regulatory or licensing board in any state, from the time the application is submitted through the completion of the MSW Program. Once admitted, the student agrees to notify the MSW Program of any prior and/or pending convictions, misdemeanors, felonies, or disciplinary action (including alcohol/drug related driving infractions) taken by any regulatory or licensing board in California or any other state.

Initials

7. If admitted, the applicant acknowledges that they have reliable and readily available transportation and appropriate auto insurance so they may be able to meet the MSW field obligations. Applicant understands that field placements may be located a considerable distance from applicant's designated point of preference, which may require unreimbursed travel up to one hour each way. In rare instances, travel exceeding one hour each way may be required. For instance, if the student resides in a remote area where there is no qualified placement within an hour's distance, or in situations where criminal background issues make locating an appropriate placement more challenging.

Initials

8. CSUN's Master of Social Work (MSW) degree prepares students for careers as direct service providers, administrators, community advocates, counselors, policy makers, researchers, supervisors and service workers in a wide variety of settings, including community and government organizations, healthcare centers, schools, and more. All CSUN academic programs are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). This program is also fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

NOTE: If you reside outside of California, your state may have its own specific licensing requirements for social work practitioners. Please check with your state's licensing board for more information.

My signature below certifies that I have carefully read, reviewed, and agree to all information and statements contained in this contract. I acknowledge that all materials submitted as part of my application are accurate and that the content and writing of the personal statement is original and of my own creation. I also acknowledge that any of the items and materials submitted as part of my application cannot be returned to me for any reason.

Signature

Name

Date