

**Indiana State University  
College of Health and Human Services  
Department of Social Work  
Bachelor of Social Work Program**

**Admission Criteria**

**To be accepted and retained in the BSW Program:**

A student

- must demonstrate the capacity to develop into a professional social worker
- must address views/positions on the following criteria in the application to the major which includes
  - values and ethics of the profession
  - ability to obtain and integrate the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary to become a generalist social work practitioner by meeting the Program's goals and Program's objectives.

A student who desires to apply to be a major in Social Work and continue in the Social Work Program is expected to have the capacity to continue developing the following qualities and behaviors:

- **Self Awareness**
  - The student, as an aspiring generalist practitioner, must know her/himself reasonably well.
  - The student must demonstrate the capacity to increasingly develop insight.
  - The knowledge of her/his own personal strengths and weaknesses should allow the individual to focus on working effectively with others. (Goal # 2, 4/Objectives # 2, 3, 4, 9, 11)
- **Professional Commitment**
  - The student should be willing to make and maintain a strong commitment to achieving the Program objectives and to the ethical standards of the social work profession (i.e., National Association of Social Workers [NASW] Code of Ethics). (Goals # 2, 6, 8/Objectives # 1- 12)
- **Professional Conduct**

- The student's conduct must maintain the standards set forth within the NASW Code of Ethics.
- The student should work collaboratively with others to use professional knowledge, values, and skills to bring about change. (Goals # 1, 2, 6, 8/Objectives # 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12)
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Ability to Communicate (Writing, Speaking, Reading, Listening)
- Acceptance and use of supervision/feedback
- Ability to function as a volunteer or employee
- Meeting deadlines/organizational skills
- **Knowledge as a Base for Practice Skills**
  - The student must understand the requirement for her/his practice to be grounded in relevant social, behavioral, and biological science and knowledge.
  - There must be evidence of a commitment to ongoing learning. (Goals # 1, 2, 3, 7/Objectives # 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11)
- **Objectivity**
  - Objectivity involves being able to evaluate people and their situations systematically in an unprejudiced, factual way.
  - The student needs to demonstrate the capacity to recognize her/his biases, refrain from behaving judgmentally, and demonstrate the professional use of self.
  - The student must not reject people because of their situations or create barriers for those seeking help. (Goals # 2, 4/Objectives # 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 12)
- **Empathy**
  - The student must be able to demonstrate the capacity for empathy, which is the ability to comprehend another's subjective reality and feelings.
  - Empathy and support are necessary to enable the client to use professional and outside resources to develop and implement a solution to issues. (Goals # 2, 4/Objectives # 2, 3, 4, 10)
- **Energy**
  - The student must have the ability to maintain the stamina to complete tasks and must develop cooperative and facilitating interactions with colleagues and users of services.

- The student needs to recognize that helping is a challenging activity. (Goals # 2, 5, 6, 8/Objectives # 1 - 12)
- **Acceptance of Diversity**
  - The student must be able to learn to appreciate the value of human diversity.
  - She/he must be open to learning how to practice with respect, knowledge, and skills related to all persons regardless of the person's age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion/spirituality, sex and sexual orientation.
  - The student must be able to practice without discrimination. (Goals # 2, 4, 6/Objectives # 2, 3, 4, 10, 12)
- **Ability to Apply Knowledge Learned in the Academic Setting to a Practice Situation**
  - A student must be able to demonstrate critical, independent thinking skills and the ability to apply knowledge gained in course work to his/her generalist practice. (Goals # 1, 2, 3, 7/Objectives # 1 -12)

See [Student Handbook](#) for complete Admissions, Termination, and Appeals Policies and Procedures (pp 23-37)