

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

Admission Information

Students wishing to major in social work may either

- Declare a pre-social work major when they enter Indiana State University
- or
- Complete a change of major which is done through the student portal.
 - [Information on how to change majors](#)

A two-level process is in place for students interested in an earning an undergraduate degree in social work (BSW):

Level 1 – Declaring Social Work as a major

When a student declares an interest in pursuing social work as a major, the student will be assigned pre-social work status.

1. A social work academic plan is developed between the academic advisor and the student.
2. The academic advisor meets with the student at least once a semester to discuss the student's academic progress and to confirm the academic plan for the next semester; the student is required to attend this meeting.

Level 2 – Admission to the Program

Students complete the [Application for Admission](#) to the Social Work Program the semester prior to entering the Program. Students cannot enroll in social work courses beyond SOWK 270 without being admitted to the major.

Students from Indiana State University: Students move from pre-social work status to Social Work Major status during the Spring semester in which they are enrolled in SOWK 270. The student completes the Application for Admission to the [Social Work Program](#) by the [due date](#) to be eligible to enroll in SOWK 382 and 384 for the following Fall semester.

Students transferring from other Colleges and Universities: Students interested in entering the Social Work Major as juniors may apply as early as February to begin coursework for the Fall semester at Indiana State University. The application for Admission to the Social Work Program must be received by the posted [due date](#). Students are also welcomed to begin Spring semester; applications are due by the posted [due date](#). Please be advised that due to the size of the program, required courses are not offered every semester, thus a Spring semester start requires five semesters to complete the degree rather than four semesters as is the case with a Fall semester transfer.

The Admissions Process

The Social Work Department's Student Affairs Committee reviews applications to the Social Work Major and makes admission decisions based on the following criteria and points system:

Criteria	Points Possible
Academic performance	
• Overall cumulative GPA (minimum of 2.5)	10
• Social work courses cumulative GPA (minimum of 2.5)	10
• Cognate courses completed with minimum of a C	5
• Social work prerequisites completed with minimum of C (C- for students admitted to ISU prior to Fall 2017)	10
• Discussion of below GPA requirements overall or in the major (if applicable - up to 5 additional points)	
Application quality:	
• Detail and clarity of content	5
• Grammar and spelling	5
• Submitted by the due date	5
TOTAL	50

Students with applications totaling at least 40 points are guaranteed admission; students with applications totaling less than 40 points are not guaranteed admission, but will be invited to meet with the Department Student Affairs Committee to discuss readiness for admission to the major and any conditions that must be met before an offer of admission can be extended.

Students will receive a letter reflecting the Department Student Affairs Committee's decision, which will be one of the following:

- Admitted to the Social Work Major
- Admitted with the Social Work Majors with recommendations
- Admitted on Probationary Status
 - Students admitted on probationary status must meet with the Department Student Affairs Committee to determine if the conditions of admission have been met
 - Once conditions have been met, the student will receive an Admission to the Program letter
- Not admitted

Students who are not admitted to the program may re-apply after meeting with the Department Student Affairs Committee and demonstrating effective progress in areas of concern.

Continuing in the Social Work Major

- Students with academic or professional issues that hinder the performance in the

social work major are reviewed by the Department Student Affairs Committee to identify strategies to promote student success

- Students will be asked to meet with the Department Student Affairs Committee to review performance issues and strategies for success