

Accelerated Education and Training Programs California State University, Sacramento Social Work Program

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Executive Information



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California State University, Sacramento

- The University, est. 1948, 31K Students
 - 4th Most Diverse Campus in West (US N&WR, 2022)
 - 9th Most Transformative College (Money.com, 2022)
 - Degrees earned (2022): 908 Master's, 7,389 Bach., 45 Doctorates
 - AANAPISI (2011) and HSI (2015); 30% First in Family
 - Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions (AANAPISI)
 - Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)
 - 36% Hispanic, 23% White, 20% Asian, 6% Black, 1% PI, <1% Native
- School of Social Work, est. 1964
 - Rebranded back to a School in 2023
 - BASW program (800+ majors and pre-majors)
 - MSW program (250+ total annually)



Sac State Social Work Degree Programs

- BASW program (800+ majors and pre-majors)
 - 50%+ continue into our own MSW program
- MSW program (250+ in total annually)
 - Two-year traditional program (most common)
 - 10-month Advanced Standing (5 to 10 students as of late per year)
 - Three-year Part-Time (weekend format for CPS workers)
 - Title IV-E (child welfare), Public Behavioral Health stipend, and APS (gerontology) stipend programs
 - Specializations: Behavioral Health, Health & Aging, Children & Families



Advanced Standing MSW Program

- Historically
 - Developed by CSWE (educational and accrediting body)
 - To promote access to profession for resource poor settings (e.g., rural areas)
 - To promote pipeline to MSW and fulfill workforce demands
- Contemporarily
 - Accredited MSW programs need to have an Advanced Standing option
 - Accreditation standards mandate / prefer MSW programs do NOT admit BASW graduates into 2-year MSW program
 - BASW degree = Generalist social work practice; MSW year-one = Generalist practice
 - It is therefore a DEI issue to have an Advanced Standing program



Advanced Standing MSW Program

- Admissions
 - Hold a CSWE-accredited BASW degree within the last five years
 - Cumulative 3.5 GPA (vs. 2.8 for two-year program)
 - Two references from BASW Field Instructor and Field Liaison
 - Experience in the field (often beyond just the BASW practicum hours)
- Curriculum
 - August One-month bridge program (integrative seminar)
 - Specialized curriculum, including two electives
 - Specialized practicum (24 hours per week)



Advanced Standing Considerations

- Barriers
 - Elevated admissions requirements (e.g., GPA)
 - Re-emergence of Advanced Standing per current accreditation mandates
 - Not all faculty on board with this program
 - Typically, no durable financial resources to administer program (e.g., need a proper Coordinator)
 - Retention post-BASW; return from work (within five years)
 - Credit limit/load can have future impact (e.g., School SWRK); usually grad credits = 30-35 (vs. 60+)
- Increase access?
 - Early advertising, outreach, motivation, pathway
 - Stipends; easier (public service) loan repayment
- Innovation
 - Make AS possible for "MSW transfer students"
 - Seven-year (vs. 5) time limit
 - Dual degrees would further professional development, marketability, and time in grad school

