Welcome to the School of Social Work and Criminal Justice at the University of Washington Tacoma. I am proud of our innovative and unique multidisciplinary school, that is committed to pillars of academic excellence through research, instruction, and community engagement. Whether you are interested in pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare or Master of Social Work degree, you will find a community of diverse scholars and leaders who are devoted to your personal, intellectual, and professional growth. Paramount is student success, and we look forward to you joining us in advancing our mission, priorities, and values.

The social work programs at the UW Tacoma SSWCJ are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education as program options under the auspices of the University of Washington School of Social Work in Seattle. That means we are among the best in the world. We are committed to social justice as the foundation for engaging with our students, one another, and the communities we serve and prepare you to be providers of social services through a combination of field experience and classroom learning. We offer a bachelor of arts degree in social welfare and a master of social work degree.

54% of our undergraduates are first-in-their-family to attend college.

#2 IN THE STATE
Best College for Social Work
College Factual, 2021

#8 IN THE NATION
Top Performer on Social Mobility
U.S. News & World Report 2023
One of the best ways to help a community as a whole is to change the policies that affect that community.

Kashira Jenkins, BASW, ’22, AS MSW ’24

Areas of faculty expertise include:

- Adolescence and Transitioning Youth
- Arts & Humanities in Social Work Practice
- Behavioral and Mental Health Recovery
- Child Welfare
- Children of Criminal Justice Involved Parents
- Comparative Criminal Justice
- Corrections and Environmental Design
- Criminology
- Cultural and Human Diversities
- Direct Social Work Practice
- Disability and Ableism
- Drugs and Crime
- Foster Care
- Gender Disparities and Health Equity Among Women
- Gender-Based Violence Prevention
- HIV/AIDS
- Immigration
- Integrative Healthcare
- Juvenile Legal System
- Kinship Care
- Law
- Learning Disabilities
- LGBTQ Issues
- Masculinities
- Medical Social Work
- Wellness and Resiliency
- Natural Environment and Animal-Assisted Therapy
- Neurodiversity
- Program Evaluation
- Quantitative and Qualitative Research
- Queer Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention
- Racial Disproportionality and Disparity
- Restorative Justice
- School Violence Prevention
- Transgender and Non-Binary Healthcare
- Transnational Social Work
- Trauma and Attachment
- Work, Inequality and Social Movements
- Youth Justice, Crime, and Public Policy
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN Social Welfare

The Social Welfare major (BASW) is dedicated to preparing competent, ethical, and culturally sensitive social workers with specialized knowledge and skills who are committed to evidence-based practice and to planned social change.

The BASW curriculum consists of three major areas: foundation courses, social work practice courses and practicum combined with seminars. BASW admits for Autumn quarter only.

BASW PRIORITY APPLICATIONS for Autumn Quarter admission are due by MARCH 15 tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/basw-admissions

SSWCJ SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
- Montgomery Scholarship for Social Work Students
- Jacque DaCamara Endowed Student Support Fund
- Joseph Gary Jensen Scholarship Fund
- Marc Walters Behavioral Health Scholarship
- School of Social Work & Criminal Justice Scholarship
- Behavioral Health Workforce Development Scholarship for MSW
- Graduate Merit Scholarship for MSW
- Joane & Stephen Moceri Endowed Fellowship for MSW
- Simon Family Endowment Scholarship for MSW

For more scholarship and fellowship resources for all social work students: tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/scholarships

CHILD WELFARE TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (CWTAP) provides a public child welfare focus within the MSW and BASW program and is for students committed to working with children and families involved in the public child welfare system. CWTAP funds students’ tuition and in return, upon graduation, they agree to work for the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) - Child Welfare Program for an equal amount of time they received financial assistance.

Visit our website for CWTAP FAQ’s, and alumni testimonials: tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/cwtap

37 Avg. number of students per year who receive full CWTAP tuition assistance

$705,000 CWTAP financial aid awarded in 2022-23

For info on current tuition and how to pay for your education: tacoma.uw.edu/finaid
SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS GET real world experience

480 field hours per BASW student
1080 field hours per MSW student

BASW CAREERS:
- Youth and child social workers
- Community-based social workers
- Mental health-based case managers
- Domestic violence survivor advocates
- Immigrant and refugee services
- Community organizing and activism

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE
Practicum is an internship experience where students have the opportunity to apply classroom learning to practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and policy makers. This happens in a “real world” setting at a local service organization under the supervision of an experienced social worker. Through practicum, students build skills and experience to be successful in the field as professional social workers.

Did you know?
BSW/BASW GRADS can earn their part-time Advanced Standing Master of Social Work degree at UW Tacoma in 15-18 months!
MASTER OF Social Work

Developed in collaboration with the School of Social Work on the Seattle campus, the part-time UW Tacoma Master of Social Work (MSW) program prepares learners for integrated specialized practice as providers of social services. Graduates will have the knowledge and skills to address their topic in depth, while actively integrating the relevant practice concerns, policies, issues of diversity and social justice, research evidence, and the community contexts impacting their chosen topic.

GENERALIST INSTRUCTION
The first half of the curriculum provides the basic knowledge of history, skills and values required for beginning social work practice. Topics include applied research, social policy and content in social work practice models, methods and a 400-hour student practicum experience allowing students to immediately apply what they have learned in social work settings based in our community.

INTEGRATIVE PRACTICE SPECIALIZATION
The mission of the Integrative Practice Specialization is to prepare MSW-level practitioners to assume leadership roles in the design, delivery, and evaluation of interventions at all levels of practice, from work with an individual client to community advocacy or policy analysis.

Students focus their advanced course of study in an area of particular interest to them. These areas might include, but are not limited to, behavioral mental health and health care systems, child welfare, school social work and veterans. MSW students develop knowledge and skills to address their topic in depth, while actively integrating the relevant practice concerns, policies, issues of diversity and social justice, research evidence, and the community contexts impacting their chosen topic. A 680-hour specialization practicum experience is also completed putting the classroom learning into practice.

ADVANCED STANDING MSW
Designed for eligible* BSW or BASW graduates, our Advanced Standing MSW allows students to enter the specialized level of the MSW curriculum and complete their degree in five or six quarters depending upon individual schedules. Advanced Standing MSW students follow the integrative practice specialization and complete a specialization practicum.

* A degree accredited by the CSWE. A non-U.S. degree considered to be equivalent by the ISWDRES may be accepted in lieu of a U.S. degree. Advanced Standing applicants who graduated more than five years ago should demonstrate continued professional growth through social work experience.
When I saw the power of that advocacy, that really ignited my passion for helping others,

Andre Henderson
BASW ’22, AS MSW ’24, Governor’s Student Civic Leadership Award 2022

MSW ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university (with a 3.0 GPA or higher preferred).
- Advanced Standing Applicants only:
  A BSW or BASW from a U.S. program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).
- Unofficial college transcript(s).
- Admissions essay.
- Current resume.
- Social service experience form documenting relevant work experience in social or health services.
- Three references (one academic reference required if graduated from an undergraduate institution within the last two years).

SPECIAL MSW REQUIREMENTS
MSW fieldwork requires access to our most vulnerable populations. Admitted students will be required to provide the following:
- ✔ Background check
- ✔ Immunization history
- ✔ Completed statistics course

MSW APPLICATIONS
3-Year MSW admits Autumn quarter only.
Advanced Standing MSW admits winter quarter only.
Application requirements, instructions and priority dates:
tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/master-social-work-admissions

For further info, visit: tacoma.uw.edu/swcj   email: swcj@uw.edu
For admission advising: tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/academic-advising
It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act. — Tenzin Gyatso, 14th Dalai Lama

tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/basw
tacoma.uw.edu/swcj/msw

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