# COLUMBIA | SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK







# FIRST

# school of social work in the United States,

known for pioneering the field and leading the way in advancing the practice of social work globally

19,000

# alumni who are demonstrated leaders

in the social work profession

91%

#### of students

who filed a FAFSA for the 2022-2023 academic year received over a total of \$17.6 million in institutional financial aid

# **HIGHEST**

# social work licensing pass rate

of any school of social work in New York and 15 percent higher than the national average

# **TOP RANKED**

### research university

with \$1 billion in sponsored research projects each year in over 200 research centers and institutes



# THINK DEEPLY. ACT BOLDLY.

"What richer place to think about how to have a meaningful impact on the world?"

**Dr. Courtney Cogburn**Associate Professor

Columbia School of Social Work (CSSW) invites students with a strong commitment to social work to apply to its Master's of Social Work (MSW) program, the oldest of its kind in the United States.

CSSW has been the national leader in shaping public policy and social work practice, research, and education since its founding in 1898. The School's story is the story of the social work profession itself. CSSW counts among its early ranks Jeannette Pickering Rankin, the first woman elected to federal office in the United States, and the Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer, an icon of the women's suffrage and peace movements. Today, our graduates make active and meaningful contributions to a global profession that is poised to grow 15 percent through 2026.

Our students are committed to social work. They thrive in a changing profession, are resilient, and function independently when the need arises. We invite talented, focused individuals to join us and discover how the birthplace of social work education continues at the forefront of the field in the 21st century. You will be challenged and transformed by your experiences at Columbia School of Social Work.

#### **APPLY NOW**

socialwork.columbia.edu/admissions

## Distinguished Scholars. Leading Experts.

Columbia School of Social Work faculty are repeatedly recognized as the most productive and influential in the country. Frequently ranking first in scholarly publications, and often cited in popular media, CSSW faculty use their unparalleled diversity of interests to combine excellence in teaching and research in exceptional balance. Our students have immediate knowledge of new developments.



# \$86 MILLION grant awarded

in 2019 by the National Institute on Drug Abuse to support research led by social work professor Nabila El-Bassel and her colleagues. Their work focuses on reducing opioid deaths in New York.

# LEADING faculty in the field of social work,

consulted for their expertise by organizations, scholars, and leaders around the world



At the Social Intervention Group training site, students are exposed to all stages of designing and implementing community-based social and public health research. They have a chance to learn how science is used to produce solutions to critical issues such as HIV, gender-based violence, and drug use. Graduates have gone on to conduct research and provide evidence-based interventions in many different agencies and organizations around the world."

**Nabila El-Bassel**, University Professor and Willma and Albert Musher Professor of Social Work







"(CSSW is) nationally recognized for our exceptional degree programs and we look forward to preparing our graduates to lead in the provision of psychedelic assisted therapy."

Dr. Heidi Allen, Associate Professor

#### **Innovative Research Centers**

CSSW's multidisciplinary research centers and programs provide a network of opportunities to seek innovative solutions to the most pressing social challenges. Our Research Centers are hubs for leading scholarly work and offer students opportunities for independent studies, internships, and research assistantships. Students deepen their knowledge in areas such as the relationship between gang violence and social media, the effects of racism on health, the opioid epidemic, clinical interventions and implementations, poverty alleviation, and complicated grief.

- + The CSSW Action Lab for Social Justice
- The Dialectical Behavior Training Program
- Aspire: Advancing Solutions in Policy, Implementation, Research, and Engagement for Refugees
- The Global Health Research Center of Central Asia
- The China Center for Social Policy
- The Willma and Albert Musher Program
- CHOSEN: Columbia Center for Healing of Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Intervention Development and **Implementation**
- The Center for Prolonged Grief

- + The Cogburn Research Group
- The Center on Poverty and **Social Policy**
- + The Center for Research on Fathers. Children & Family Well-being
- The Social Intervention Group
- The Columbia Population Research Center
- The Center for Social Policy and Practice in the Workplace



Classroom to Career: A Focus on Student Success

At Columbia School of Social Work, you will have access to the strength and dedication of a comprehensive network of student support services committed to your intellectual and professional development. They will provide personalized writing consultations, career counseling, and much more. Faculty and staff will treat you as an individual, offering mentorship and guidance to help you achieve your professional goals. Our community is centered by students. Student service offices include:

- + Academic Affairs
- + Career Services and Leadership Management
- + Computing Services
- + Student Affairs
- + Office of Practicum Learning

- + Financial Aid
- Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- + Office of Advising
- + Social Work Library
- + Writing Center

(66

Staff and faculty members really want to know who you are. They want to know your social work story. They want to know what you are passionate about and they want to feed and fuel that passion."

**Karma Lowe**, Senior Associate Dean, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Enrollment and Community Engagement





#### A Commitment to Inclusion

The recently established Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is the result of a student-led initiative to demonstrate a commitment to social justice, equity, and inclusion. The office oversees and develops programming and services that link issues of diversity, multiculturalism, inclusion, intersectionality, and social justice for students, faculty, and staff.

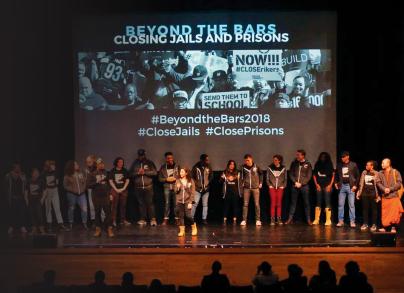
# 18-20

#### students

assigned to each advisor, allowing for a personalized, holistic approach to advising for every student

# 225+ student events

sponsored by the CSSW campus community annually, including panels, lectures, conferences, arts, entertainment, and social events





My [practicum] placements exposed me to the complexities of social work practice and reinforced the skills we developed in the classroom. After graduation, I was hired by my second-year field placement to advance municipal financial empowerment efforts nationally, and each year I look forward to supporting incoming interns from CSSW."

Paige Diner, MSW, 2017
Associate, Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund



The time I spent in my [practicum] placement shaped my social work lens in every way. As an eighth grade counselor in the South Bronx, I learned that young people, particularly young people of color, are not here to be 'saved.' It was not their privilege to have me there—it was mine to be there with them. All of their strengths, beauty, and resilience were on display every day. It taught me about the strength within communities, particularly those labeled 'disadvantaged.'"

Raana Kashi, MSW, 2007 Senior Director of College Access Planning Field Placement: NYC Department of Education Counseling in Schools 219



I think New York is the perfect place to have a school of social work. There is no issue that someone may be interested in for which they can't find a [practicum] placement. Whether you want to look at it from a clinical perspective, direct practice, or from a macro level, there are places to go. If you are focusing on incarceration like I am, there are numerous placement opportunities."

Durrell M. Washington, MSW, 2018
Research Fellow/Staff Associate
Officer of Research, Columbia Justice Lab
PhD Candidate, University of Chicago
School of Social Service Administration
Field Placement: SAFE Lab

### Your Master's of Social Work Pathway

## SPECIALIZATION AREAS

- +Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice emphasizes assessment, intervention, and evaluation within a field of practice, using evidence-based individual, family, group, and case management strategies; clinical application of risk and resiliency theories, research to at-risk populations; and clinical issues with specific client populations.
- +Integrated Practice and Programming (IPP) analyzes the causes and consequences of larger social problems at the individual, community, and organizational levels. Students partner in developing culturally-relevant interventions that are responsive to varying values, beliefs, and world views. IPP prepares students to collaborate with stakeholders on needs assessments, program design, grant writing, community building, advocacy, policy development, and program evaluation.
- + Policy Practice explores policy analysis and advocacy, including the development of knowledge, values, and skills needed to define policy issues from a social work perspective, collect and analyze relevant data, develop policy options, prepare testimony, and present recommendations.
- + Leadership, Management and Entrepreneurship for Social Justice (LME) builds knowledge, skills, and values in administering social service programs, including program planning, program evaluation, financial management, staff development and training, and human resource management and supervision. Students create new ventures that address compelling social issues.

## 7 FIELDS OF PRACTICE

- + Aging
- + Contemporary Social Issues
- + Family, Youth, and Children's Services
- + Health, Mental Health, and Disabilities
- International Social Welfare and Services
- School-based, School-linked Services
- + World of Work

## **9** DUAL DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

Partner Institution	Degree
+ Columbia Business School	MBA
+ Columbia Law School	JD
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation	MS, Urban Planning
+ Mailman School of Public Health	MPH
+ School of International and Public Affairs	MPA or MIA
+ Union Theological Seminary	MDiv
+ Bank Street Graduate School of Education	MEd
+ Jewish Theological Seminary	MA, Jewish Studies



Social Work began as an intervention in the conditions of urban industrial life and has evolved into a global field that impacts nearly every area of social and political life."

# **Dr. Katherine Shear**Director of the Center for Prolonged Grief





#### The Columbia Difference

#### Dialectical Behavior Therapy

The first and only program of its kind within a school of social work, giving advanced clinical students the opportunity for intensive study of DBT theory and skills.

#### Motivational Interviewing

A practical, clinical strategy students will learn to utilize, drawing on client-centered counseling, cognitive therapy, and a strengths perspective to build motivation for change.

#### **+ PROP Curriculum**

An in-depth, self-reflective examination of Power, Race, Oppression, and Privilege (PROP), providing students with a common foundational framework for study and practice.

#### Accelerated Policy Practice

An early and focused specialization program in which students with an interest in policy practice take three of the policy specialization courses in their foundation year.

#### Action Lab for Social Justice

An exploratory, student-driven center that aims to uproot systems of oppression and create conditions of love, care, and liberation in social work practice and academia.

## CSSW is a **LEADER**

### in online social work education excellence.

Our online campus consistently receives accolades and recognition by the International E-Learning Association, Network for Social Work Management, Online Learning Consortium, University Professional and Continuing Education Association, United States Distance Learning Association. Workforce magazine, and more.



I have exposure to policy as well as more clinical courses. That intersection between different methods and fields is preparing me to be a more well-rounded clinician in the future."

#### **Ashley Leeds** MSW, 2020



## **Pathways**

#### **TWO-YEAR**

Traditional full-time, two-year program, consisting of two years of consecutive fall and spring terms.

#### 16-MONTH

Full-time study beginning in the spring term and continuing for four consecutive terms total, including one summer term. (Only available on campus.)

#### **ADVANCED STANDING**

One-year program designed for those who have earned a Bachelor's in Social Work (BSW) from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)-accredited social work program.

#### **PART-TIME**

In this pathway, students complete the same amount of coursework and practicum internships as the Two-Year pathway. The difference is that they take fewer credits per term and fewer practicum hours per week, spread out across three semesters per year allowing for more time to fulfill the degree requirements. (Only available online.)

#### PART-TIME TO FULL-TIME (EXTENDED)

The ideal pathway for those who wish to work part time and then transition into full-time study, completing degree requirements in three or four years.

#### ONE YEAR RESIDENCY FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS (REDUCEDRESIDENCY)

For students with two or more years of full-time experience in a social services agency, offering the opportunity to continue working while taking classes part time for the first two years.

#### **TRANSFER**

For those who have already completed a full year of practicum and coursework at another CSWE-accredited graduate school of social work in the U.S. within the past five years.

#### **FIVE-TERM INTERNATIONAL**

The International Students Program (ISP) is the pathway for international students who are unfamiliar with the U.S. social welfare system and who speak English as a second language. (Only Available on campus.)



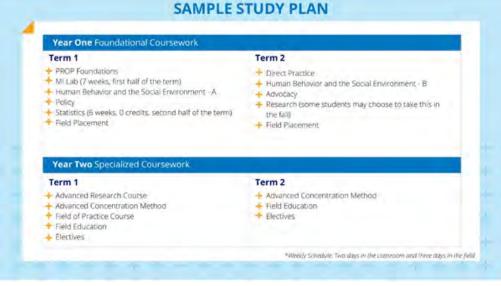


## What You'll Study

Below is an example of a full-time, two-year degree pathway for a student enrolled in the Master's of Social Work program. You may choose from a wide range of programs and degree-completion options with varying timelines.











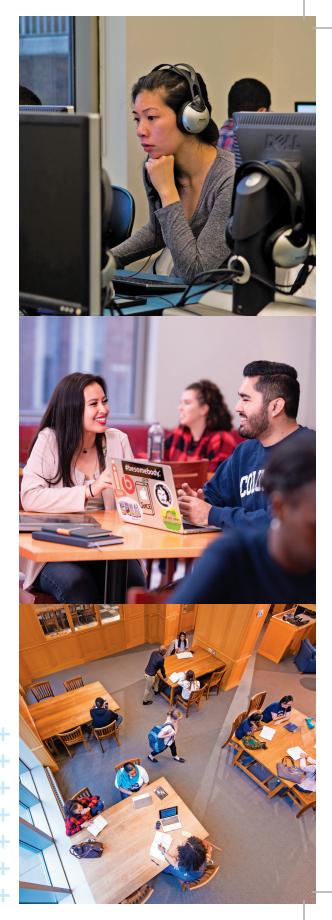
#### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- + Complete online application
- + \$75 application fee
- + Resume/curriculum vitae
- + Two letters of recommendation
- + Essay prompt responses
- + Academic transcript(s)
- + For non-native English speaking applicants only: Duolingo, IELTS, and TOEFL scores

Note: GRE is not required

#### **APPLY NOW**

socialwork.columbia.edu/admissions



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