COLUMBIA | SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

MASTER’S OF SOCIAL WORK
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/apply
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

$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.

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.

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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.

+ ASPIRE: Advancing Solutions in Policy, Implementation, Research, and Engagement for Refugees
+ China Center for Social Policy
+ Cogburn Research Group
+ Columbia Justice Lab
+ Columbia Population Research Center
+ Dialectical Behavior Training Program
+ Center for Complicated Grief
+ Global Health Research Center of Central Asia
+ Center on Poverty and Social Policy
+ Center for Research on Fathers, Children, and Family Well-being
+ SAFE Lab
+ Social Intervention Group
+ Center for Social Policy and Practice in the Workplace

It’s an incredibly rich educational environment. We have some of the most recognized and respected voices in policy and in social work here at CSSW.”

Heidi Allen, Associate Professor
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, Assistant Dean, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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 on students. Student service offices include:

- Academic Affairs
- Career Services and Leadership Management
- Computing Services
- Enrollment and Student Services
- Field Education
- Financial Aid
- Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Office of Advising
- Social Work Library
- Writing Center

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.

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
Field Education: At the Nexus of Theory and Practice

From classroom to the field, our curriculum reinforces advocacy in the pursuit of human rights as well as social and economic justice. Our field placements exist and operate from the core of social work practice.

In the field, you will apply classroom theory and evidence-based practice skills as you develop your professional identity and begin your commitment to serving people, communities, and organizations. You will be self-reflective and self-evaluating in your work as you navigate how to best support those you are serving. Through the integration of coursework and field education, you will be trained to become a program planner, administrator, policy practitioner, researcher, or counselor as you work to assist diverse populations with complex concerns.

Columbia School of Social Work’s comprehensive network of field internship partners in the New York metro area and across the country provide unrivaled opportunity for a diversity of experience and practice.
Your Master’s of Social Work Pathway

4 METHOD 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.

+ Advanced Generalist Practice and Programming (AGPP) 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. AGPP 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.

+ Social Enterprise Administration (SEA) 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/Gerontology
+ Contemporary Social Issues
+ Family, Youth, and Children’s Services
+ Health, Mental Health, and Disabilities
+ International Social Welfare and Services to Immigrants and Refugees
+ School-based, School-linked Services
+ World of Work

This is an incredibly robust program, and that’s what makes it unique. You will learn rigorous research methodologies, understand how to really work with communities, and how to partner with them as collaborators. But more importantly, you will understand the real-world impact of power, race, oppression, and privilege in the classroom. You will really be prepared to enter this market.”

Desmond Patton, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Social Work and Sociology

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.

+ Emerging Technology, Media, and Society
  A new academic minor that allows students to examine how social work practice intersects with advancing technology, media, and society’s most pressing problems.

DUAL DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Institution</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Business School</td>
<td>MBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Law School</td>
<td>JD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation</td>
<td>MS, Urban Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>MPH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of International and Public Affairs</td>
<td>MPA or MIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union Theological Seminary</td>
<td>MDiv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Street Graduate School of Education</td>
<td>MEd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Theological Seminary</td>
<td>MA, Jewish Studies</td>
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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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Foundational Coursework</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester One</td>
<td>Semester Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Introduction to Statistics</td>
<td>+ Human Behavior and the Social Environment-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Human Behavior and the Social Environment-A</td>
<td>+ Direct Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Social Work Research</td>
<td>+ Field Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Field Education</td>
<td>+ Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Foundations of Social Work (Decolonizing Social Work)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Two</th>
<th>Specialized Training in Concentration, Field, Optional Minor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester One</td>
<td>Semester Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Advanced Research Course</td>
<td>+ Advanced Concentration Method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Advanced Concentration Method</td>
<td>+ Field Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Field of Practice Course</td>
<td>+ Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Field Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Electives</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Weekly schedule: two days in the classroom and three days in the field

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

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.

Minors (Optional)
+ Business Administration
+ Criminal Justice
+ Emerging Technology, Media, and Society (new)
+ International Social Welfare
+ Implementation Science
+ Law
+ Public Policy and Administration
Your Pathway to a Meaningful Career

When you graduate from Columbia School of Social Work, you will join more than 19,000 graduates who are demonstrated leaders in the social work profession. As a student, you will be supported by a strong and active network of alumni, faculty, and professional staff who are committed to your success. Graduates pursue a wide range of academic and professional positions, including doctoral study, research fellowships, private practice, and active careers in the social service, nonprofit, NGO, government, and corporate sectors. Listed here are some of the organizations where recent graduates and alumni are employed:

+ Medical Social Worker
  NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center
+ Dialectical Behavior Therapist (DBT)
  Postgraduate Center for Mental Health
+ Fellow, Behavioral Health
  Yale School of Medicine
+ Director
  The Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies
+ Policy Advocate
  New York Lawyers for the Public Interest
+ Vice President, Education
  Planned Parenthood Federation of America
+ Human Resources Manager
  Brooklyn Academy of Music
+ Presidential Management Fellows
  U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
+ Child Protection Advisor
  Save the Children International, Sweden
+ Project Management Specialist
  USAID—Thailand
+ Director, Corporate, Foundation, and Government Relations
  South Nassau Communities Hospital

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

+ Complete online application
+ $75 application fee
+ Resume/curriculum vitae
+ Three letters of recommendation
+ Three essays
+ Academic transcript(s)
+ For non-native English speaking applicants only: TOEFL and IELTS scores

Note: Applicants are not required to submit GRE scores

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Spring Term Deadline: October 15
Fall Term Priority Deadline: December 1
Fall Term Final Deadline: February 15

APPLY NOW
socialwork.columbia.edu/apply
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1255 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10027-5927
212-851-2400
cssw-admit@columbia.edu

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