

2026 Field Education Awards

The School of Social Work is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Field Student of the Year and 2026 Field Instructor of the Year award. Field Education is the social work profession's signature pedagogy. Each year, the School of Social Work recognizes one student from the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) program and one student from the Master of Social Work (MSW) program, as well as one BASW Field Instructor and one MSW Field Instructor for the Field Education Awards.

The winners selected from the pool of nominations will receive a monetary award and will be recognized at the 14th annual Social Work Symposium on April 17, 2026. Student award recipients will also be recognized at the University Honors Assembly.

Eligibility for Student Nominees

Eligible student nominees should be enrolled in their final academic year or semester of field placement internship in either the BASW or MSW program at the University of Memphis between Summer 2025, Fall 2025, and/or Spring 2026. Both part-time and full-time students are eligible. One nominee from each program level (1 BASW student and 1 MSW student) will be selected as a winner based on their nomination form(s). Field Student nominees should demonstrate superior leadership, critical thinking, oral and written communication, professionalism, and drive to go above/beyond expectations while at their respective internship placement.

Students can only be nominated by their field instructor (agency supervisor) and/or supporting staff members from their field placement internship agency from the current academic year. Additional (optional) letters of support for the nomination can be uploaded to the nomination form.

Eligibility for Field Instructor Nominees

Eligible field instructors must be supervising at least one BASW or MSW field placement student at the respective internship agencies between Summer 2025, Fall 2025, and/or Spring 2026. One nominee from each program level (1 BASW Field Instructor and 1 MSW Field Instructor) will be selected as a winner based on their nomination form(s). Field Instructor nominees should demonstrate excellence in mentorship of social work field education student interns, advocacy for building students' professional growth, and fostering a positive learning environment to promote student success. Field Instructors can only be nominated by their social work student intern(s) from the current academic year.

Nomination Deadline

The nomination process is described below. The deadline for submission is **4:30 PM Central Time on March 2, 2026**. Winners will be notified no later than **March 10, 2026**. Winners must register for and be present at the Social Work Symposium on April 17, 2026. Questions or supporting documents should be directed to Prof. Maggie Landry Maggie.L@memphis.edu

Nomination Process for Student Nominees

- Complete the 2026 Field Student of the Year nomination form on Qualtrics, available here: https://memphis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eFCdQxfBZ7uvjmu
 - Nomination form requires nominators to describe student internship tasks and responsibilities (100-word max).
 - Nomination form requires nominators to quantify the student's leadership, critical thinking, oral communication, written communication, professionalism, and drive to go above/beyond agency expectations. Likert scale.
 - Nomination form requires nominators justify their answers to the quantitative evaluation above (250-word max).
 - Nomination form requires nominators justify why the student should be selected as Field Student of the Year (500-word max).
 - Comment on student growth over the internship period.
 - Comment on how the student has impacted the agency and/or the clients the agency serves.
 - Comment on any challenges the student overcame while at the internship.

Nomination Process for Field Instructor Nominees

- Complete the 2026 Field Instructor of the Year nomination form on Qualtrics, available here: https://memphis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GLNUdPkBZXqyDc
 - Nomination form requires nominators to quantify the field instructor's 1:1 mentorship, ability to build student's professional self, foster a positive learning environment for intern, promote student intern success, and assist in overcoming barriers/challenges to success. Likert scale.
 - Nomination form requires nominators justify their answers to the quantitative evaluation above (100-word max).
 - Nomination form requires nominators justify why the field instructor should be selected as Field Instructor of the Year (500-word max).
 - Comment on how the field instructor has helped the student intern/nominator grow as a professional over the internship period.
 - Comment on how the field instructor has prepared the student intern/nominator for the working world outside of the degree program.

Considerations and Additional Information for Nominators

- Nominations must be through the Qualtrics forms. Emailed nominations will not be accepted or reviewed. Incomplete nomination forms will not be reviewed. Supporting documentation (optional) or additional letters of support (optional) *can* be emailed to Maggie.L@memphis.edu with the subject line "2025 Field Award Supporting Documentation", however, the supporting documentation cannot replace the official Qualtrics nomination form.
- The deadline to submit the Qualtrics nomination form and any optional supporting documentation is **4:30pm Central Time on March 2, 2026**. Winners will be selected and notified by March 10, 2026. Winners must register for and attend the Social Work Symposium on April 17, 2026.