

University of Memphis School Social Work Licensure Programming

Licensure Requirements and Information

University of Memphis

- The State of Tennessee Department of Education has approved the University of Memphis to offer School Social Worker PreK-12 Licensure
 - BA
 - MSW

*****It is important for students to understand that the University of Memphis School Social Work Licensure is a very competitive process. Not all students will qualify for the Licensure track.***

BA School Social Work Licensure

BA Licensure Requirements

Admissions Requirements:

In addition to the admissions requirements for the University of Memphis, students seeking the school social work license must meet admissions requirements of the social work major and the school social work licensure program. The criteria for admission into the BA program in social work are:

- Completion of an application for admission to the social work major
- Personal goal statement
- A critical thinking essay

BA Licensure

Additional criteria for admission into the school social work licensure are:

- Current undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- A copy of passing scores for all portions of the PRAXIS CORE examination

The PRAXIS CORE test can be waived ***IF*** the student has an ACT score of 22 or above or a combined score of 1020 or above on the SAT

- Complete the Teacher Education Program (TEP) application
 - <http://www.memphis.edu/tep/admissions.htm>
- Background check via College of Education, Health, & Human Sciences

When completing the TEP Application

- Please make sure to write “***Social Work***” in the area where you are to ***Choose One/ Concentration(s)***
- **This will inform the office that you are NOT a teacher you are seeking the School Social Work Licensure.**
- If you have questions about the TEP application or process contact:

Mrs. LaRuth Lofties

Teacher Education Coordinator

202 Ball Hall

(901)678-4177

llofties@memphis.edu

Praxis CORE Exam Info

- Click this link to find out more about the Praxis CORE requirements: <http://www.memphis.edu/tep/praxis.htm>
- Click this link to schedule to take the Praxis CORE: <http://www.ets.org/praxis/>

BA Curriculum

BA students will meet all requirements for Tennessee School Social Work Licensure through the completion of three courses:

- SWRK 4937: School Social Work
- SPED 2000: Foundation/Exceptional Learn
- SPED 3803: Classroom/Behavior Management
- Field placement (SWRK 4830/31)

BA Courses for School Social Work Licensure

- **SWRK 4937: School Social Work**
- Overview of school social work including public education system from the national, state, and local levels; examination of range of practice and policy issues related to delivery of social work services in school settings. Special emphasis on understanding current federal and state laws as they relate to practice with school-age children and their families.
PREREQUISITE: SWRK 2010, 2911, and 3920.

BA Courses for School Social Work Licensure

- **SPED 2000: Foundation/Exceptional Learn**
- Current research and practices concerning physical, cognitive, emotional, and social characteristics of individuals with exceptionalities; special education laws, educational needs, cultural diversity, inclusion in general education classroom.
Field Hours: 4

BA Courses for School Social Work Licensure

- **SPED 3803: Classroom/Behavior Management**
- Advanced strategies for managing social behaviors of learners with mild to severe disabilities; techniques for eliminating maladaptive behaviors, managing aggressive and antisocial students, and teaching appropriate social skills. Field Hours: 8. PREREQUISITE: SPED 2000.

BA Courses for School Social Work Licensure

- **SWRK 4830/4831: Field Placement**
- BA students are required to complete a minimum of 460 clock hours of field placement in an assigned agency (180 hours in SWRK 4830 and 280 hours in SWRK 4831). Students complete these hours by enrolling in SWRK 4830-4831: Field Instruction Social Work I-II and SWRK 4840-4841: Integrative Field Seminar I-II. BA students must apply and be accepted into the Teacher Education Program. In addition, they must obtain a background check and at least 1 million/3 million dollars professional liability insurance via a reputable organization or company that provides coverage for social workers prior to placement in the field. Students should also review the student field manual and handbook for information regarding the requirements for liability insurance coverage prior to placement in the field. Students completing the Tennessee School Social Work License will complete their field agency in a school district or in an appropriate agency setting to get school experience. Table 1 outlines the link between Tennessee School Social Work licensure standards, field placement course requirements, and field placement assessments.

MSW School Social Work Licensure

MSW School Social Work Licensure Requirements

Admissions Requirements

MSW students seeking school social work licensure must meet all admission requirements of the MSW program. These requirements are:

- University of Memphis Graduate Application
- Completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited university with a 3.0 grade point average
- Submission of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts.
- Submission of GRE (Graduate Record Examination) scores.
- Master of Social Work Application.
- Professional Goal Statement.
- Three professional references.
- Resume.

MSW School Social Work Licensure Requirements

In addition, students seeking school social work licensure must complete the following:

- Apply to the Teacher Education Program (TEP)
- Complete the TEP application :
<http://www.memphis.edu/tep/admissions.htm>
- Have an Undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- Take the PRAXIS CORE Test (BA students must take this)
- Have GRE scores of : 3.5 writing; 143 verbal (350 Old GRE); 138 (350 Old GRE) quantitative **or combined verbal & quantitative of 281** will result in the PRAXIS CORE examination being waived (this is applicable to graduate students only).
- Submit verification of Background Check

Yikes! My GRE Scores are not High Enough...

- If your GRE scores fall below the set requirements then you can schedule an appointment to take the Praxis CORE examination.
- If just your GRE writing score was below the requirement (3.5) but your Verbal and Quantitative Scores met the requirement, then simply schedule to retake the CORE writing.
- If your GRE Verbal and Qualitative Scores were below the requirement: 143 verbal (350 Old GRE); 138 (350 Old GRE) quantitative or combined verbal & quantitative of 281, then you must take the entire CORE examination in order to enter the TEP program.
- Click this link to find out more about the Praxis CORE requirements:
<http://www.memphis.edu/tep/praxis.htm>
- Click this link to schedule to take the Praxis CORE:
<http://www.ets.org/praxis/>

What if my GPA is below a 3.0?

- The University of Memphis School Social Work Licensure is a very competitive process. Not all students will qualify for the Licensure track. The TEP looks specifically at your undergraduate GPA.
- If your GPA is below a 3.0, but you have evidence of previous or current experience in a school setting or previous programming in education, an appeal can be made. Anyone with a GPA below a 2.6 need not apply.
- The appeal process must include a letter from the Department of Social Work Faculty over the School Social Work program, and even this may not be sufficient evidence for the TEP to allow the appeal.

When completing the TEP Application

- Please make sure to write “***Social Work***” in the area where you are to ***Choose One/ Concentration(s)***
- **This will inform the office that you are NOT a teacher you are seeking the School Social Work Licensure.**
- If you have questions about the TEP application or process contact:

Mrs. LaRuth Lofties

Teacher Education Coordinator

202 Ball Hall

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MSW School Social Work Curriculum

MSW students will meet all requirements for Tennessee School Social Work Licensure through the completion of these courses

- SWRK 6937: School Social Work
- SWRK 7016: Adv. Individual Child/ Youth OR SWRK 7017 Adv. Family Child/ Youth
- SPED 7517: Functional Analysis/Treatment of Problem Behavior)****Encourage you to take Intro to ABA as an Elective Also****
- Field placement (SWRK 7051/52 or 7053/54)- in a school setting with a minimum of 400 clock hours

MSW School Social Work Course Description

SWRK 6937: School Social Work

The purpose of this course is to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for successful and competent social work in public schools. The course covers the varied roles and functions of school social workers in their practice with diverse groups of students, families, school personnel, and diverse communities. It emphasizes best practices in assessing, intervening, and evaluating social work practice across all system levels.

PREREQUISITE: Admission to MSW program.

MSW School Social Work Course Description

- **7016: Adv. Individual Child/Youth:** The course covers advanced direct practice techniques with children and youth. Techniques include cognitive behavioral therapy and other evidence based practices.
- **7017: Adv. Family Child/Youth:** The course covers prevention and intervention approaches with families of children in youth at an advanced level. Topics include wrap around models of care for children/youth in the mental health, disability, juvenile justice, child welfare, and family violence service systems and integration of care across systems.

MSW School Social Work Course Description

SPED 7517: Func Anlys/Treat Prob Behv (3)

Examines principles, issues, approaches, and strategies for conducting Functional Behavior Assessment and Functional analysis. PREREQUISITE: SWRK 7011, SPED 7514 (waived if outside of SPED department).

MSW School Social Work Course Description

SWRK 7051/7052 or 7053/7054: Field Placement

MSW students must complete a minimum of 960 clock hours of field placement. The State Dept of Education requires 400 clock hours to be within a school if pursuing the School Social Work Licensure. 400 hours are completed in the foundation field placement sequence: SWRK 7051-7052. 560 hours are completed in the concentration field placement sequence: SWRK 7053-7054.

MSW students must apply and be accepted into the Teacher Education Program (TEP). In addition, they must obtain a background check and at least 1 million/5 million dollars professional liability insurance via a reputable organization or company that provides coverage for social workers prior to placement in the field.

Students should also review the student field manual and student handbook for information regarding the requirements for liability insurance coverage. The MSW program requires that students get two different field experiences in their foundation and concentration years. Therefore, students are not allowed to complete both field placements at the same agency.

Information Regarding Licensure

Future MSW Graduates

Once you have fulfilled the Graduation and Licensure requirements (completed TEP Program requirements, completed all required Social Work Courses (for the School Social Work Licensure track), completed field in a school setting, and you have graduated you will need to do the following:

- Click on this link:
<http://www.state.tn.us/education/lic/doc/ed2693.pdf>
- Complete the top portion of this document and check the ***Initial License-TN Institutions Only*** box and circle ***Apprentice Special Groups***
- Submit this document and your official transcripts (graduate and undergraduate) to :

Mrs. Mary Lanier

University of Memphis

Office of Teacher Education and Student Support

202 Ball Hall

678-4309

MSW Students with a Current BA SSW Licensure (no post-graduate school experience)

- <http://www.state.tn.us/education/lic/doc/ed2693.pdf>
- Must complete this application
 - Look at Option B
- Follow the requirements set forth by TN Dept of Ed
- Apprentice Level licensure is valid for 5 years
- You will remain at an Apprentice Level until you receive three years of experience under the direction of public school personnel
- Once the three years experience is obtained the clinician will no longer be an apprentice level licensed clinician and will change Licensure status with Dept of Ed
- Taking the School Social Work class can count towards renewal of apprentice licensure

MSW Students with a Current BA SSW Licensure (with post-graduate school experience)

- After three years of supervision/ experience working in a school setting you are eligible to transition your Apprentice License to a full License
- <http://www.state.tn.us/education/lic/doc/ed2693.pdf>
- Complete the application and Check the box *Advancement from Apprentice Level to Professional Level* box and circle *Professional School Service Personnel*
- The above application can be used to Advance your license from Apprentice to Professional Level Licensure
- A supportive letter from your School Administrator or School Superintendent may be required
- Mail directly to Nashville TN (address at top of the form).

- Certain endorsement areas for educators in Tennessee are issued on a separate license called an Apprentice Special Group License. These areas include
 School Social Worker (Grades PreK-12)
- An individual who qualifies for initial licensure with one of these endorsement areas is issued an Apprentice Special Group License which is valid for five years.
- After completing a minimum of **three** years of experience on the Apprentice Special Group license in that endorsement area (with at least the last year completed in an approved Tennessee public or non-public school that has adopted the state evaluation model), the individual is eligible to advance to the ***Professional School Service Personnel License***.
- The Professional School Service Personnel License is issued for a ten year period and may be renewed by meeting the same requirements as the Professional License (Teacher) renewal.
- If the Apprentice Special Group License is not used in an approved Tennessee public or non-public school, it remains valid for the duration of the five-year validity period and may be renewed by meeting the same renewal requirements as the Apprentice Teacher License renewal.

Post-Graduate Students

- To take U of M SSW class-Complete a Graduate School Application/ School Application (Non-Degree Seeking), Inform U of M SW you applied and want to take the class
- **Not eligible for Financial Aid
- Take the class with a passing grade B or above
- You will obtain Licensure through University of Tennessee:
- http://www.csw.utk.edu/students/SSW_licensure/postgradSSWrequirements.pdf

UT requires:

- 2 years of post master work in field (child/ adolescent)
- Complete 2 on-line applications (TN Teaching Lic and UT SSW app) <http://www.csw.utk.edu/students/licensure.html>
- Pay \$100

University of Memphis School Social Work Licensure Paperwork

School Social Work Licensure Forms and Information

For additional information about the School Social Work Licensure process, forms, and resources go to:

<http://www.memphis.edu/socialwork/schoolswrklicensure.htm>

I have Graduated now what?

Once you have fulfilled the Graduation and Licensure requirements (completed TEP Program requirements, completed all required Social Work Courses (for the School Social Work Licensure track), completed field in a school setting, and you have graduated you will need to do the following:

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- Complete the top portion of this document and check the *Initial License-TN Institutions Only* box and circle *Apprentice Special Groups*
- GRE/ CORE scores and Background check verification (these should be in your TEP file)
- Submit this document and your official transcripts (graduate and undergraduate) to :

Mrs. Mary Lanier

University of Memphis

Office of Teacher Education and Student Support

202 Ball Hall

678-4309

My contact Info

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