

MSW Application FAQ's

DO I NEED TO TAKE THE GRE?

- No, our MSW program application does not require that you complete the GRE.

DO I HAVE TO FINISH MY APPLICATION ALL AT ONCE?

- No, you have the option of saving and returning to your application by signing back in with the username and password you established when applying. <https://apply.nmsu.edu/apply/>

HOW DO THE LETTERS OF REFERENCE WORK?

- When applying for the MSW program, please keep in mind that you do not have to wait until the entire application is complete to submit the information for the people who you will be asking to write your letters of recommendation. Once you submit their information on your application, the system will automatically send them an email with instructions on how to upload the letter as well as a rating form to complete. Please enter this information as soon as you start the application so that the writers of your hey can have ample time to complete your letters. All letters are to be uploaded by the reference writer and they will automatically be attached to your application.
- We do not accept letters from family members, friends, or friends of the family.

WHAT IF I HAVEN'T COMPLETED THE BIOLOGY or STATISTICS PRE-REQUISITES?

- You can still apply to the MSW program. If you get admitted and accept, you will just need to make sure the **Biology & Stats course** is done before the first day of the fall semester. Please work with the MSW Program Coordinator and Academic Advisor to complete these requirements.

WHAT DO I NEED TO INCLUDE IN MY PERSONAL STATEMENT?

- All required materials are listed in the application packets found on the MSW application page. There is a separate packet for Regular MSW and Advanced Standing MSW programs. <https://socialwork.nmsu.edu/students/graduate-students/msw-apply.html>

DO I REALLY HAVE TO SUBMIT A COPY OF MY TRANSCRIPTS FROM EVERY COLLEGE I'VE ATTENDED?

- Yes, an unofficial copy of your transcript from every university you've attended must be uploaded to your application. Official transcripts showing bachelor's degree certification will need to be sent to the graduate school prior to full admission.

WILL MY APPLICATION BE REVIEWED IF IT'S MISSING ONE OR TWO ITEMS?

- No, the only applications that will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee are the ones that are complete.

I AM INTERESTED IN THE MSW/MPH DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM. HOW DOES THAT WORK?

- The MSW/MPH program is a three-year program in which you take courses in both Social Work and Public Health. The first step is to apply and be admitted to each part-time (3YR) program. Contact Dr. Jagdish Khubchandani, jagdish@nmsu.edu from Public Health for more information.

WHEN DOES THE FIELD PLACEMENT/INTERNSHIP/PRACTICUM BEGIN?

- The start of field education depends on your program.
 - Regular MSW students in the 2YR program start their internship during their first fall semester and continues during each subsequent semester.
 - Regular MSW students in the 3YR program start their internship during their second fall semester and continue internship through their third year
 - Advanced Standing students in the 1YR program start their internship during their first fall

MSW Application FAQ's

semester and continue it for the duration of the 1YR program.

- Advanced Standing students in the 2YR program start their internship during their second fall semester and continue it for the duration of the 2nd academic year.

WHAT IF I WANT TO APPLY FOR ADVANCED STANDING, BUT WANT TO ALSO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE REGULAR 2YR OR 3YR PROGRAM IF I DON'T GET SELECTED FOR ADV. STANDING?

- For those of you who are planning on applying for Advanced Standing, you will need to submit your application after this semester as you will need to attach your field final. There is a limited number of seats available for Advanced Standing, so if you want to also be considered for Regular MSW program, please send me an email stating so and I will attach it to your application so that you do not have to apply twice.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED A COMPLETE APPLICATION?

- A complete **2YR or 3YR** MSW application will include the following:
 1. Completed electronic application form
 2. Transcripts from each university attended
 3. Current resume
 4. Personal Statement – following instructions in application packet
 5. Two letters of reference (received)
- A complete **Advanced Standing (1 or 2YR)** MSW application will include all of the above PLUS:
 6. A GPA of 3.5 or higher in Social Work Courses
 7. An earned BSW within the last 5 years
 8. Case Study
 9. Bio-psychosocial
 10. Signed Copies of your final field evaluation

I AM INTERESTED IN THE ONLINE PROGRAM, IS IT EASIER THAN THE SITE BASED PROGRAM?

- No, all our MSW courses are graduate level courses and both the online and site-based program require the same courses, and the same amount of time spent in field practicum. While the online program allows you flexibility in that you will not need to attend class at a given location, you will attend class online. You should also plan to spend approximately 16- 20 hours per week in field practicum whether you are in a site-based or online program and these hours are typically completed Monday-Friday during regular business hours. Whether you plan to apply to the site-based or online program, you need to make arrangements to be available to complete your field practicum hours, attend class, and complete the required work outside of class.

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

- Please feel free to contact any of the following with any other questions:

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MSW Online Program Coordinator

Academic Advisor

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