TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

Orien Levy Woolf Division of Social Work

Master of Social Work Program

APPLICATION TO THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in our Master of Social Work (MSW) Program. Our hybrid program combines online learning with required in-person educational experiences to prepare students for advanced generalist social work practice.

Before you complete the application, we encourage you to carefully review the program structure and requirements of our MSW Program. The admissions process is an opportunity for us to learn more about your academic preparation, professional interests, experiences, and commitment to the social work profession. We recommend reviewing all application materials thoroughly to ensure that all required sections are complete before submitting. **Complete the entire application first and sign it last, then save the completed PDF and upload it to the application site.**

We appreciate your interest in our MSW Program and look forward to learning more about you through your application. Your MSW journey starts here; let's get started!

I. Personal Information

First name (legal):

Last name(s):

Preferred name:

City and state where you currently reside:

Relocation:

If you plan to relocate to Texas to attend TWU's MSW Program, please indicate the city in Texas where you expect to reside:

Texas city:

II. Program Information

Which MSW Program track are you applying to?

- [ ] Generalist Track (qualifier: you have earned a Bachelor's degree in a discipline other than Social Work or from a non-accredited social work program)
- [ ] Advanced Standing Track (qualifier: you have earned a BSW within the last seven years from a CSWE-accredited program, or from a CASWE-accredited program recognized by CSWE, or from an internationally earned ISWDRES-evaluated degree comparable to a BSW)

Are you applying as a full-time or part-time student?

- [ ] Full-time (between 12 to 15 credit hours per semester)
- [ ] Part-time (between 6 to 9 credit hours per semester)

You have the option to complete a Master's Thesis during your final two semesters in the MSW Program. The thesis replaces the Integrative Paper required in the Advanced Integrative Seminar course and one required elective course. The thesis option provides an opportunity to engage in an intensive, faculty-mentored research experience. It may be particularly beneficial for students considering doctoral studies or careers involving research and program evaluation.

Are you interested in pursuing a Master's Thesis?

- [ ] I am interested
- [ ] I am not interested

III. Personal Essays

As part of your application, you are required to submit in this form three essays, each limited to 3,000 characters. Applicants are encouraged to draft their essays using a word-processing program such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs and to carefully review and proofread each response before including it in the application. Your essays should reflect your own thinking, writing abilities, and professionalism.

We will evaluate each essay for both content and written communication. Consideration will be given to the comprehensiveness of your response, clarity and organization of ideas, critical thinking and self-reflection, as well as grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

You may use standard spelling and grammar-checking tools, such as those built into Microsoft Word or Google Docs, or Grammarly to identify typographical, spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors. Use these tools for basic proofreading and editing, not to generate, substantially rewrite, or replace your original work.

Important: Your essays must be your own original work.

Note that application essays may be screened using tools designed to identify potentially AI-generated content. If an essay raises concerns regarding authorship or the use of generative artificial intelligence, it may be subject to additional review by the Admissions Committee. Note that submitting work that is not your own may affect the admissions decision. If we discover this after admission, we may address it in accordance with applicable MSW Program and University policies.

Essay 1 (3,000-character limit)

Describe your interest and professional goals in pursuing a Master of Social Work degree. Reflect on how your prior academic, professional, and/or life experiences have prepared you for graduate study in social work. Discuss the areas of social work practice that most interest you and how earning an MSW will help you achieve your goals.

Response:

Essay 2 (3,000-character limit)

Describe your strengths and areas of growth that you will bring to your study. Consider the demands of the program, including coursework, field internship, and out-of-class study time, and describe how you plan to balance these responsibilities while maintaining personal well-being and self-care.

Response:

Essay 3 (3,000-character limit)

Discuss what you understand social work, as a field, to be. Within your understanding of the profession, discuss your views on the importance of diversity (in all forms, i.e., not limited to cultural diversity, but open to include all aspects of diverse identities) in social work practice. Examine experiences that you have had with diverse populations and how these have influenced your beliefs, attitudes, and biases.

Response:

IV. Personal Essays' Originality & AI Use Certification

I understand that the essays are an important component of the admissions process and are used to assess qualities and skills essential to graduate education and professional social work practice, including critical thinking, self-reflection, and written communication.
I understand that standard spelling and grammar-checking tools may be used for proofreading and editing, including identifying typographical, spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.
I certify that the personal essays submitted as part of my application are my own original work and reflect my own ideas, experiences, self-reflection, and writing abilities.
I certify that I have not used generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, or similar technologies, to generate, draft, rewrite, or substantially revise any portions of my essays.

☐ I have read and understand the statement above.

V. Criminal History, Field Education and Professional Licensure Acknowledgment

I understand that criminal history or background checks may be required for social work placements, professional licensure, and employment. I understand that criminal history does not necessarily preclude my admission to the TWU MSW Program; however, certain criminal histories may affect my eligibility for or access to field placement opportunities and may have implications for future professional licensure or employment.
I understand that completion of the MSW degree does not, by itself, guarantee my eligibility for professional licensure. Social work licensing authorities, including the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC) and the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners, establish licensure requirements related to education, examinations, criminal history, and other eligibility criteria.
I understand that admission to and completion of the TWU MSW Program does not guarantee my eligibility for a field placement of my interest, professional licensure, or employment. I further understand that I am responsible for reviewing and understanding the licensure requirements applicable to the state or jurisdiction in which I intend to practice.

☐ I have read and understand the statement above.

VI. Completion & Attestation

I acknowledge that, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and applicable university policies, information from my educational records, including information regarding my academic progress, may be shared with TWU faculty and other university personnel with a legitimate educational interest.
I understand that the information provided in my application will be used to make an admissions decision and that providing false, incomplete, or misleading information may affect my admission or, if discovered after admission, may result in dismissal from the program.
I certify that the information provided in my application for admission to the TWU MSW Program, including all supporting materials, is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that I have completed this application myself.

☐ I have read and understand the statement above.

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understand the statements and acknowledgments in this application and certify that I have complied with these requirements.

Applicant name: _____ **Date (MM/DD/YYYY):** _____

Applicant signature: _____