

M.S.W. PROGRAM ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Admissions criteria have been established for the M.S.W. Program to facilitate the selection of students who show the greatest potential to meet the academic and professional expectations of the program and of the School of Social Work. To be considered for admission, applicants must forward all admissions materials to **both** the Jackson State University Division of Graduate Studies and the School of Social Work/M.S.W. Program. **Please note that admission to the M.S.W. Program will begin October 15 and applications will close on March 15.**

Admissions Requirements - Two Year Full-Time and Three-Year Part-Time Programs

- ◆ a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
Students may be admitted with a baccalaureate degree in a field other than social work or social welfare. Transcripts will be evaluated for a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.74 on a 4.0 scale and for the presence of courses that meet program requirements for a liberal arts background, inclusive of courses in human biology and statistics.
- ◆ evidence of volunteer and/or work experience in the field of social work
- ◆ a personal statement of five double-spaced typewritten pages, which includes: (1) understanding of social work as a profession; (2) reasons for seeking graduate social work education and professional social work career goals; and (3) strengths that will contribute to success in this graduate program. The personal statement outline is provided on page 14 of the application bulletin.
- ◆ three letters of reference (from instructors, employers or supervisors, or professional colleagues), one letter must be from an instructor
- ◆ satisfactory performance on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for international students for whom English is a second language
- ◆ an interview with the Admissions Committee may be required.

Admission Requirements—Advanced Standing (same as above with additional requirements listed below)

- ◆ A baccalaureate degree in social work from a college or program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education
- ◆ A grade of “B” or better in all social work courses. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for undergraduate coursework.

Transfer Credits

The M.S.W. Program will accept a limited number of transfer students each year. Transfer credits, up to 12 semester hours, may be accepted from a master’s degree program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, based on a review by the M.S.W. Admissions Committee. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- admission requirements of the MSW Program and the Division of Graduate Studies at Jackson State University;
- a letter of recommendation from the dean or dean’s designee of the previous or current M.S.W. Program relative to the student’s status during enrollment; and
- within 30 days of notification of acceptance into the Program and prior to enrollment, the student must submit a written statement of intent to transfer credit and the specific credit(s) for which transfer is requested to the M.S.W. Program Director.

The request for transfer of credit(s) must be accompanied by an official copy of the graduate catalogue from the institution at which the course(s) were taken that covers the year(s) the course(s) was/were taken. For each course for which transfer credit is requested:

- ◆ the course must have been taken within five years of the date of the request;
- ◆ the student must have earned a minimum grade of “B” or 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; and
- ◆ the name of the course and the course syllabus (including the bibliography) must be provided.