

ADMISSION

MISSION OF THE MSW PROGRAM

The MSW program at Cal U is a response to the need for more professionally educated social workers in small towns and rural environments. The mission of the MSW program at Cal U is to have a continuing impact on the quality of life of at-risk people and human services within the region through preparing effective and ethical advanced generalist practitioners with special knowledge for practice in small towns and rural environments; through the provision of research, leaders and collaborative social services efforts; and through promotion of professional life-long learning.

ACCREDITATION

The MSW Program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) through the Commission on Accreditation.

THE GOALS OF THE MSW PROGRAM

Goal 1: Prepare ethical, competent, self-regulating MSW graduates for advanced generalist practice, with an emphasis on practice in rural and small-town environments.

Goal 2: Promote leadership in regional development and human service problem-solving through nonmetropolitan-focused research, consultation and collaborative efforts.

Goal 3: Provide needed continuing education for social work professionals and other human service providers committed to serving rural and small-town populations.

Applicants must meet the general requirements for the School of Graduate Studies and Research (<http://www.calu.edu/apply-now.htm>) and the MSW program (<http://www.calu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/social-work/admissions/index.htm>).

1. Complete the admission application for both the School of Graduate Studies and the MSW Program;
2. Submit a non-refundable application fee of \$25.00;
3. Submit three letters of recommendation;
4. Complete the Professional Portfolio Guidelines;
5. Have official transcripts sent to the MSW program by all colleges and universities attended.

REQUIREMENTS

REGULAR STANDING PROGRAM:

1. Have completed 30 credits of upper-level liberal arts;
2. Have an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (below 3.0 may be considered for probationary acceptance. The student must maintain a 3.0 GPA for 12 credits to be fully admitted).

ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM:

Graduates of CSWE Accredited BSW programs must meet the additional requirements below:

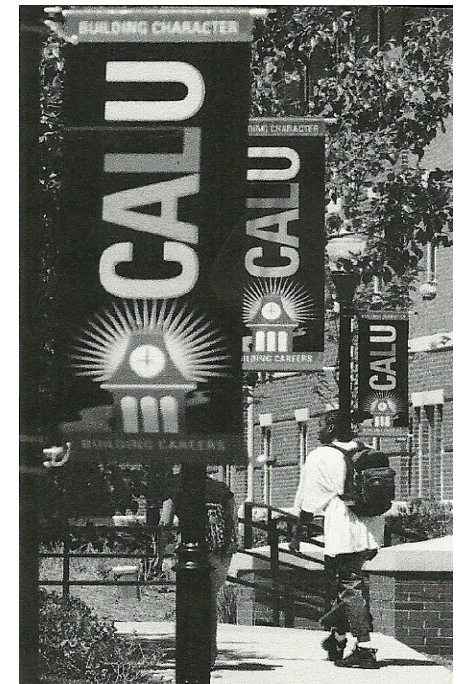
1. Have a social work degree earned within six years of entrance into the MSW program;
2. Have an overall GPA of 3.0 and 3.25 in the social work major.

TRANSFER CREDITS

Applicants may request transfer credit, pending faculty review, for 12 credits from an accredited MSW program and three credits from related graduate study. No credit is given for life experiences or employment.

NON-DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS

Non-degree seeking students and non-degree seeking students in other graduate programs may be permitted to enroll in courses that do not require MSW program admission or foundation course prerequisites, with approval of the MSW program director.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS?

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM FOCUS?

The program has an advanced generalist concentration with a rural emphasis.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM?

Four options are available. Regular admissions complete the 60 credits in two years of fulltime study or three years of part-time study. Advanced standing students complete 36 credits in three semesters for full-time study or in two years of part-time study.

WHERE ARE THE CLASSES TAUGHT?

All courses are currently taught on the Cal U campus in California, Pa. A few on-line courses are available.

WHAT ABOUT PRACTICUM PLACEMENT?

The field coordinator works together with the student and seeks placements in rural and small towns within the region and with client populations of their choice.

CAN I DO MY PRACTICUM AT WORK?

Placement at your present place of employment can be arranged as long as it is an appropriate social work environment where the placement responsibilities differ from one's normal job responsibilities.

WHEN CAN I START?

All students begin in the fall semester.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

Please submit all admissions materials early. Applications are reviewed as completed. The program has a rolling admission with final decisions made in early June each year.

GRADUATE TUITION

PER SEMESTER

2011-2012

Pennsylvania Residents

Full-Time: **\$416.00** per credit
(1 to 15 credits) Plus fees

Non-Pennsylvania Residents

Full-Time: **\$624.00** per credit
(1 to 15 credits) Plus fees

CONTACT INFORMATION

California University of Pennsylvania

250 University Avenue

Box 90 MSW Program

California, PA 15419

724-938-4022

thomas@calu.edu

<http://www.calu.edu/graduate/msw>

California University

of Pennsylvania

Master of Social
Work Program

