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.

MISSION OF THE MSW PROGRAM

As a professional degree program in a publicly-funded university in a rural small town area, the mission of the MSW Program at CalU is to improve the quality of life of at-risk people within the surrounding region and in the broader global society.

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 with the requisite knowledge, skills and values for advanced generalist practice, with an emphasis on practice in rural and small-town environments.

Goal 2

Develop social workers committed to social and economic justice, the promotion of human rights and universal respect for human diversity.

Goal 3

Develop leaders in social welfare prepared to create needed and enhance existing services through nonmetropolitan-focused research, consultation, collaborative efforts and continuing education.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete the online Graduate School application at: https://ssb.calu.edu/PROD/bwshalog_P_DispLoginNon;
2. Submit a non-refundable application fee of $25.00;
3. Send an official transcript to:
   School of Graduate Studies & Research
   California University of PA, Box 91
   250 University Avenue
   California, PA 15419
4. Send ALL MSW application materials to:
   Master of Social Work Program
   California University of PA, Box 90
   250 University Avenue
   California, PA 15419

The forms are accessible online at:
http://www.calu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/social-work/admissions

- MSW Application
- Personal Professional Statement
- Resume
- Three letters of reference

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).
3. It is strongly recommended that potential applicants take an undergraduate research or statistics course.

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.
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 57 credits in two years of full-time study or three years of part-time study. Advanced standing students complete 39 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 courses are taught online.

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 2015-2016

Pennsylvania Residents
Full-Time: $470.00 per credit (1 to 15 credits) plus fees
Non-Pennsylvania Residents
Full-Time: $705.00 per credit (1 to 15 credits) plus fees

For additional information please visit
http://www.calu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/social-work

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/academics/graduate-programs/social-work