



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Board of Accreditation (BOA)
Department of Social Work Accreditation (DOSWA)
Baccalaureate, Master's, & Practice Doctorate Program Accreditation

Reaffirmation & Initial Accreditation Eligibility Application **(Read-Only)**

IMPORTANT: This is a DRAFT application in development for use by practice doctorate programs after the [practice doctorate accreditation pilot concludes](#). It is anticipated that programs will be able to seek accreditation in late-2025. The timeline is subject to change pending Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) review, expansion of the BOA's accreditation scope, and adoption of the final and forthcoming [Accreditation Standards for Practice Doctorate Social Work Program Accreditation](#). This document is provided publicly for informational and planning purposes only and subject to change.

Directions

Purpose

- Institutions and social work programs must meet eligibility standards that demonstrate support in sustaining a baccalaureate, master's, or **practice doctorate** social work program.

Formatting & Submission

- A completed application includes:
 - Evidence all eligibility standards are met
 - Payment of the reaffirmation or initial accreditation eligibility fee
 - Finalized attestations and signatures
- Submit this application as a Microsoft Word document or searchable PDF, per policy 4.7 *Document Formatting & Submission Requirements* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).
 - The proposal must be a single document and may not include separate attachments nor appendices.
 - Scanned documents will not be accepted.
- **Email completed applications to the accreditation@cswe.org.**
- *For collaborative programs:* All institutions must meet the eligibility standards and submit separate applications.

Timeframe for Review & Response

Applications are reviewed and processed within 30-days of receipt. CSWE accreditation staff may request clarifying information. Upon approval, programs will receive an email confirmation. After the application is approved, the self-study/initial accreditation benchmark documents may be submitted.

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Program Information

Date Application Submitted to CSWE:	MM/DD/YYYY
Name of Educational Institution:	
Program Mailing Address:	
Program Level for which Reaffirmation/Initial Accreditation is sought¹: <i>(check one only)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Baccalaureate <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Practice Doctorate
Review Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Accreditation
Standards: <i>(check the standards the program's accreditation will be reviewed under)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 2015 EPAS <input type="checkbox"/> 2022 EPAS <input type="checkbox"/> 2025 Accreditation Standards for Practice Doctorate Social Work Program Accreditation
Date Required Minimum Faculty Have Been/Will Be Hired²: <i>(for master's programs seeking Initial Accreditation only)</i>	MM/DD/YYYY

Program Options

Definitions are located in policy 4.9 Program Changes in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

# of Program Options	Location or Delivery Method	Program Option Type <i>(check one per row)</i>	Percentage of the Curriculum Delivered Online <i>(check one per row)</i>	Number of Students Enrolled
1	City, State, Country or Online	In-person/Face-to-Face/Traditional: <input type="checkbox"/> Main/Primary Campus <input type="checkbox"/> Branch/Satellite Campus	<input type="checkbox"/> 0-50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51-100%	#

¹ Programs with more than one CSWE-accredited or candidate program must complete a separate application for each program level.

² Per [2015 EPAS](#) (AS M3.2.4), Per [2022 EPAS](#) (AS M4.2.1).

# of Program Options	Location or Delivery Method	Program Option Type <i>(check one per row)</i>	Percentage of the Curriculum Delivered Online <i>(check one per row)</i>	Number of Students Enrolled
		Distance Education: <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Site <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence		
2	City, State, Country or Online	In-person/Face-to-Face/Traditional: <input type="checkbox"/> Main/Primary Campus <input type="checkbox"/> Branch/Satellite Campus Distance Education: <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Site <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> 0-50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51-100%	#
3	City, State, Country or Online	In-person/Face-to-Face/Traditional: <input type="checkbox"/> Main/Primary Campus <input type="checkbox"/> Branch/Satellite Campus Distance Education: <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Site <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> 0-50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51-100%	#
#	Add or delete rows as needed			#
Total number of students enrolled in all program options:				#

Information for [Directory of Accredited Programs](#)

Name of Social Work Program: <i>(if different than institution's name)</i>	
Title of Degree Awarded: <i>(as listed on transcript)</i>	

<p>Program Director Information <i>(name is displayed on directory)</i></p>	<p>Name, Credentials Title E-mail Phone</p>
<p>Field Director Information <i>(name is displayed on directory for baccalaureate and master's programs only)</i></p>	<p>Name, Credentials Title E-mail Phone</p>
<p>Comprehensive Review of Program's Listing on Directory of Accredited Programs <i>(check one)</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Listing is correct <input type="checkbox"/> Updates have been submitted via Accredited Program Record Update Form</p>

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Eligibility Standards

Eligibility Standard 1:

The president/chancellor of the institution authorizes the CSWE Board of Accreditation's review of the social work program, including conducting site visits.

- 1a. The president/chancellor of the institution authorizes the CSWE Board of Accreditation's review of the social work program, including reaffirmation site visits.
- Yes
 No
- 1b. Complete the *Authorization of Program Review Form*, signed by the president/chancellor of the institution.

Authorization of Program Review Form

Check the following boxes:

- As the president/chancellor of this institution, I hereby request and authorize a review of the social work degree program to be conducted by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Board of Accreditation.
- The president/chancellor understands they must meet with the visitor during their visit and will receive copies of official Board of Accreditation decision letters.

President/Chancellor Signature:	Insert e-signature or image of signature
President/Chancellor Name, Credentials:	
Title:	
Date Signed:	MM/DD/YYYY
Phone #:	(###) ###-####
Email Address:	

Eligibility Standard 2:

The program is within an educational institution recognized by a regional accrediting body approved by the [Council for Higher Education Accreditation \(CHEA\)](#).

- 2a. The program is within an educational institution recognized by a regional accrediting body.
- Yes, Regional Accreditor Name
 - No
- 2b. The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognizes the regional accrediting body.
- Yes
 - No
- 2c. The social work program has been approved by the institution's regional accrediting body to offer the social work program and award degrees for the program seeking initial accreditation/reaffirmation.
- Yes, date approved: MM/DD/YYYY
 - No
 - Regional accreditor does not require approval to offer the social work program and award degree for the program seeking initial accreditation/reaffirmation.
- 2d. Website hyperlink to institution's accreditation profile or directory listing on the regional accrediting body's website: Insert website hyperlink here

Eligibility Standard 3:

The institution must be legally organized and authorized to operate as a post-secondary educational institution under the laws of the relevant state, district, or territory. The program has been approved by the appropriate higher education authorities.

- 3a. The institution is legally organized and authorized to operate as a post-secondary educational institution under the laws of the relevant state, district, or territory.
- Yes
 - No
- 3b. The social work program has been approved by the appropriate state, district, or territory-level higher education authorities to offer the social work program and award degrees for the program seeking initial accreditation/reaffirmation.
- Yes, date approved: MM/DD/YYYY
 - No

The appropriate state, district, or territory-level higher education authorities do not require approval to offer the social work program and award degrees for the program seeking initial accreditation/reaffirmation.

Eligibility Standard 4:

The institution complies with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

4a. The institution is compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Yes

No

4b. Insert the institution's written ADA compliance plan, website hyperlink to the information, or other proof³ of the institution's compliance with the ADA:

Insert website hyperlink or embed proof here

Eligibility Standard 5:

The institution has appointed a program director (per the 2015, EPAS, 2022 EPAS or *Accreditation Standards for Practice Doctorate Social Work Program Accreditation*) who has the ability to provide leadership through teaching, scholarship, curriculum development, administrative experience, and/or other academic and professional activities in social work. At the baccalaureate level, the social work program director has a master's social work degree from a CSWE-accredited program. At the master's level, the social work program director has a master's social work degree from a CSWE-accredited program, and it is preferred that the social work program director have a doctoral degree, preferably in social work. **At the practice doctorate level, the social work program director has a doctoral degree in social work, a master's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program, and at least two years of post-master's social work degree practice experience in social work.**

Baccalaureate, master's, and **practice doctorate programs** must identify separate program directors.

5a. Provide the name of the social work program director.

³ ADA compliance information may be found in several places, depending on the structure of the institution, including institutional centers, offices, or departments of disabilities services; human resources; the office of the affirmative action; affirmative action compliance officer; and office of the president, provost, academic vice president, or university counsel. Program's may submit website hyperlinks to ADA-related policy documents, ADA-related information posted on the university's website, information in a catalog, handbook, manual, syllabi, or documented procedures for requesting reasonable accommodations.

Insert text here

- 5b. Indicate the degree(s) the program director holds.

Insert text here

- 5c. The program affirms that the program director holds master's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited⁴ program.

Yes

No

- 5d. **Practice Doctorate Programs Only:** The program affirms that the program director has at least two years of post-master's social work degree practice experience in social work.

Yes

No

- 5e. **Practice Doctorate Programs Only:** The program affirms that the program director holds a doctoral degree in social work.

Yes

No

- 5f. Insert the social work program director's curriculum vitae (CV) here:

Embed CV here

Eligibility Standard 6:

The institution identifies and describes the social work program in its catalog, similar publication, or on its website. Program mission and course offerings are specified.

- 6a. The institution identifies and describes the social work program in its catalog, similar publication, or on its website.

Yes

No

- 6b. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the description of the social work program from the institution's catalog, similar publication, or website:

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

⁴ This includes degrees recognized through [CSWE's International Social Work Degree Recognition and Evaluation Service](#) or covered under a [memorandum of understanding](#) with international social work accreditors.

6c. The institution specifies the social work program’s mission and course offerings in its catalog, similar publication, or on its website.

- Yes
- No

6d. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the social work program’s mission and course offerings from the institution’s catalog, similar publication, or website:

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

Eligibility Standard 7:

The educational institution provides its organizational chart to document the position of the social work program in the governance structure of the institution and to demonstrate its position relative to other professional education programs offered by the institution.

7a. The educational institution affirms the position of the social work program in the governance structure is relative to other professional education programs offered by the institution.

- Yes
- No

7b. Insert or provide a website hyperlink to the institutional organizational chart documenting the position of the social work program in the governance structure of the institution demonstrating its position relative to other professional education programs:

Insert website hyperlink or embed proof here

Eligibility Standard 8:

The institutional transcript for students who complete the social work program confirms that the social work program was completed, and a baccalaureate, master’s, or **practice doctorate** degree was awarded.

8a. The institution affirms the transcripts for students who complete the social work program documents a social work program was completed, and a baccalaureate or master’s degree was awarded.

- Yes
- No

- 8b. Provide the title of the degree granted to students who have completed the social work program.

Insert text here

- 8c. Insert a graduate's official or unofficial transcript from which identifying information has been removed⁵:

Embed proof here

Eligibility Standard 9:

If a full-time plan of study is offered, the institution must ensure that the master's social work program can be completed⁶ in two (2) calendar years of full-time study. If a part-time plan of study is offered, the institution must ensure that the master's social work program can be completed in a maximum of four (4) calendar years.

*Only master's social work programs respond to this standard.

- 9a. The institution ensures that the full-time master's program can be completed in two (2) calendar years.
- Yes
 - No
 - N/A, a full-time plan of study is not offered (skip 9b)

- 9b. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the social work program's full-time plan of study documenting that the master's social work program can be completed in two (2) calendar years of full-time study.

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

- 9c. The institution ensures that the part-time master's program can be completed in a maximum of four (4) calendar years.
- Yes
 - No
 - N/A, a part-time plan of study is not offered (skip 9d)

⁵ If the program does not yet have graduates, submit a sample transcript that documents the degree to be awarded and verifies the major of social work.

⁶ Individual students may pursue customized plans of study beyond the 2-years of full-time study or 4-years of part-time study. However, the program must ensure the structured curricular pathways or plans of study align with this standard.

- 9d. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the social work program's part-time plan of study documenting that the master's social work program can be completed in four (4) calendar years of full-time study.

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

Eligibility Standard 10:

If a full-time plan of study is offered, the institution must ensure that the practice doctorate social work program can be completed⁷ in four (4) calendar years of full-time study. If a part-time plan of study is offered, the institution must ensure that the practice doctorate social work program can be completed in a maximum of six (6) calendar years.

**Only practice doctorate social work programs respond to this standard.*

- 10a. The institution ensures that the full-time practice doctorate program can be completed in four (4) calendar years.

Yes

No

N/A, a full-time plan of study is not offered (skip 10b)

- 10b. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the social work program's full-time plan of study documenting that the practice doctorate social work program can be completed in four (4) calendar years of full-time study.

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

- 10c. The institution ensures that the part-time practice doctorate program can be completed in a maximum of six (6) calendar years.

Yes

No

N/A, a part-time plan of study is not offered (skip 10d)

- 10d. Insert the website hyperlink and page number (if applicable) to the social work program's part-time plan of study documenting that the practice doctorate social work program can be completed in six (6) calendar years of full-time study.

⁷ Individual students may pursue customized plans of study beyond the 4-years of full-time study or 6-years of part-time study. However, the program must ensure the structured curricular pathways or plans of study align with this standard.

Insert website hyperlink here

Identify page number location of information (if applicable)

Payment of Reaffirmation or Initial Accreditation Eligibility Fee

The program attests they have paid/will pay the [Reaffirmation Eligibility Fee](#) or [Initial Accreditation Fee](#) by the due date indicated on the program's timetable.

Programs are automatically invoiced for this fee. Programs may submit payment electronically via credit card, ACH (Automated Clearinghouse), bank transfer, or by check and detailed payment instructions are included in the invoice. Direct invoice and fee-related questions to feesaccred@cswe.org.

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Attestations

By submitting this application, the program attests to the following:

- We understand that the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#) includes the policies and procedures governing the accreditation review.
- We understand that CSWE's Department of Social Work Accreditation and the Board of Accreditation have made many resources available on the [CSWE website](#) to guide us through each step of the process.
- We understand that accreditation reviews are program-driven, and reminders/prompts will not be sent to the program. Downloadable [reaffirmation](#) and [candidacy](#) timetables are available to guide programs through each step of the process.
- We agree to utilize the **standards**, required Self-Study Volume 1 Template, and Interpretation Guide (as designed for the corresponding set of **standards**), to guide and develop accreditation documents throughout the accreditation process.
- We attest that the program will review and follow policy *4.7 Formatting & Submission Requirements* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#) for all program documents throughout the process.
- We make a commitment to Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) efforts in the program's explicit and implicit curriculum.
- We attest that the institution has a written anti-discrimination policy and complaint or grievance process for employees and students.
- We attest that the institution has a written anti-harassment policy and complaint or grievance process for employees and students.
- We understand that CSWE accreditation staff will assign a visitor for the candidacy/site visit and a visitor assignment confirmation e-mail will be sent to the program.
- We agree to contact the site visitor no less than 60-days before the visit (reaffirmation programs)/BOA visitor within 2-weeks of the candidacy visit assignment email notification (candidacy programs), to begin planning the visit, including selecting a date, travel plans, and initial schedule setting and inquire about any accommodations the visitor may need during travel or the visit (e.g., mobility, communication).
 - Policies and procedures regarding the site visit are located in policy *6.6 Site Visits/5.9 Candidacy Visits 1,2,&3* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

We understand that the program is responsible for purchasing flight and hotel accommodations for the visitor and reimbursing for all relevant ground transportation expenses and meals on travel days and visit day(s). We understand that visitors are not expected to provide the program with an IRS Form W-9, personal service agreements, or similar contracts requested by the program/institution, as they are not vendors or service providers.

- Policies and procedures regarding the site visit are located in policy 6.6 *Site Visits*/5.9 *Candidacy Visits 1,2, &3* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

We attest that we will keep the institution's president/chancellor, social work program administrators, faculty, staff, and students apprised of the review timetable, and request all stakeholders hold the selected date for each forthcoming visit.

We understand that CSWE accreditation staff cannot determine compliance and the Board of Accreditation is the sole and final arbiter of compliance.

We understand that all accreditation-related communications must be facilitated by the program's selected primary contact per policy 4.1 *Primary Contact & Accreditation Communications* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

We understand that the program is responsible for providing updated contact information to ensure timely and accurate correspondence.

- Policies and procedures for updating the program's record, including key personnel, are located in policy 4.9 *Program Changes* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

We understand that accreditation status applies to the entire social work program, inclusive of all program options.

- Program options are defined in policy 4.9 *Program Changes* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).
- Compliance issues for one program option, affects the accreditation status of the entire social work program, inclusive of all program options.

We understand that the program is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the data and information submitted in materials for candidacy, reaffirmation, or other accreditation-related review processes.

- Presenting false or materially inaccurate information, either through intent or through failure to exercise care and diligence in verifying the information, is considered a breach of policy 1.3 *Integrity Policy* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).

We understand that the program is solely responsible for implementing, demonstrating, and maintaining compliance with the **standards** during this candidacy/reaffirmation process and in-between review cycles as an accredited program.

[For Reaffirmation Programs Only] We have submitted the required *Site Visit Planning Form*, according to our reaffirmation/timetable.

Application Authorization

To be completed by the social work program's primary contact⁸:

Check the following box:

We understand that the primary contact must meet with the site visitor during their visit and will receive copies of official Board of Accreditation decision letters.

Primary Contact Signature:	Insert e-signature or image of signature
Primary Contact Name, Credentials:	
Title:	
Date Signed:	MM/DD/YYYY
Phone #:	(###) ###-####
Email Address:	

⁸ Each program applicant selects one (1) primary contact. The primary contact manages all accreditation-related communications between the program and CSWE per policy *4.1 Primary Contact and Accreditation Communications* in the [Accreditation Policy Handbook](#).