Prepare to become a licensed social worker through UND's top-ranked program.

UND's bachelor's degree in Social Work (B.S.S.W.) is flexible to meet your needs with online and on-campus course options. You'll graduate with a professional degree, ready to serve vulnerable people and communities with a special focus for rural settings.

**Program type:** Major  
**Format:** On Campus or Online  
**Est. time to complete:** 2-4 years  
**Credit hours:** 120 or less (depending on number of completed credits)

### Why earn a bachelor's degree in social work?

**Application Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>April 15^</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>May 1</td>
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</tbody>
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*Freshman Priority Deadline  
^Transfer Priority Deadline

**On-campus Professional Program Application Deadlines**

- **Fall:** March 1^ | June 15
- **Spring:** Oct. 15

**Online Professional Program Application Deadlines**

- **Fall:** June 15
- **Spring:** Oct. 15
- **Summer:** March 15

Admitted UND students can apply to the BSSW program after meeting admission criteria.

*priority deadline

The Social Work B.S.S.W. program will provide you with the knowledge and skills to help people actualize their full potential. Those who choose a career in social work are passionate for improving the well-being of others through advocacy, partnerships, research, and addressing social problems, all from a social justice perspective.

Social workers help people overcome some of life’s most difficult challenges including:
Poverty
- Discrimination
- Abuse
- Physical illness
- Divorce
- Loss
- Unemployment,
- Educational problems
- Disability and mental illness

Social Workers may perform a variety of duties such as helping individuals and families access services, counseling clients with mental health issue or providing outreach and advocating for policy change. Clinical social workers diagnose and treat clients with mental and behavioral health concerns.

Top Online Social Work Program

UND's Social Work program is nationally recognized for numerous "firsts" in online education, and a high profile in the state and region makes us a great value and a great choice.

Social work stands apart from other social science degrees in that most states license social workers at the bachelor's level. Only those who hold formal social work degrees can call themselves social workers.

In addition to a social work major, students often pursue related academic minors:

- Gerontology
- Chemical Dependency

Accredited B.S.S.W. Program

The undergraduate program in Social Work, offering a Bachelors of Science in Social Work (B.S.S.W.) degree, has been accredited since 1974, when undergraduate accreditation first began. The Department of Social Work was re-accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in 2014. The department continues to update its curriculum to adhere to revised standards established by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education.

Social Work at UND

- Complete a field internship under the supervision of a licensed field instructor.
- Get involved with our nationally-recognized award-winning student clubs, the Student Social Work Association or Phi Alpha, the social work honor society.
- Top 25% program in terms of the total number of undergraduate students enrolled at UND.
- Develop knowledge, values and skills that equip you to intervene with individuals, families, groups, communities, and in the policy arena.
- The first state university to offer a distance B.S.S.W. using web-based videoconferencing technology.

Social Work Careers

11% Growth rate for social workers through 2026
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

50K Median annual salary for social workers
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

A B.S.S.W. will prepare you for social work practice in a variety of settings. You will be eligible to apply to take the social work licensing exam in any states that license at the B.S.S.W. level. You'll also be eligible to apply to any Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) programs.
Social work stands apart from other social science degrees in that most states license social workers at the bachelor's level. Only those who hold formal social work degrees can call themselves social workers.

The career opportunities in social work are endless, and may include:

- Child Welfare Services
- Family Preservation Services
- Adoption & Foster Care
- School Social Work
- Hospital Social Work
- Hospice and Palliative Care
- Crisis Intervention
- Mental Health Clinics & Outpatient Facilities
- Institutional Care
- Development Disabilities
- International Social Work
- Employee Assistance
- Disaster Relief
- Homeless Family Assistance
- Military Social Work
- Gerontology
- Private Practice
- Advocacy, Consulting and Planning

When You Major in Social Work

A Career That Works

An Social Work degree gives you the strategic skills you need, including:

- Case Management
- Crisis Intervention
- Psychotherapy
- Event Planning

UND Social Work Major Alumni

Social Work alumni have gone on to a variety of successful careers with:

- Altru Health System
- Essentia Health
- Development Homes, Inc.
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota

Top Online Social Work Program in the Nation

UND is increasingly regarded as one of the top academic and research institutions in the nation for social work. We consistently rank among the best for educational quality, affordability, and career outcomes.

Explore More Options
Looking to add a double major, pursue graduate work or connect with the department?

- Department of Social Work
- Explore Similar Majors
- Social Work M.S.W.