Social Work (M.S.W.)

Earn your master's degree in social work from a top-ranked accredited M.S.W. program.

Social work is your calling. Be the change needed to help improve lives, stand up to injustices and prevent social problems.

Program Snapshot

Program type: Master's Degree  
Format: On-campus or online  
Est. time to complete: 1-2 years (on-campus or online concentration) or 3 years (online foundation)  
Credit hours: 36 (on-campus or online concentration) or 60 (online foundation)

Affordable Online Master's Degree in Social Work

The University of North Dakota's (UND's) online master's degree in social work is especially tailored for students who work full-time. The Online (Distance) Concentration is available for students who have completed a Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) degree from a CSWE-accredited program. Those without a B.S.W. but with a bachelor's degree in a related field can pursue the Online (Distance) Foundation.

Online student tuition is charged per credit regardless of residency. This means you will pay the North Dakota in-state tuition rate regardless of your state of residency.

Earn a M.S.W. in 3 Semesters

Complete your master's degree in social work in as few as three semesters by attending class full-time and on campus. Or, complete the on-campus concentration part-time. Students must have completed a B.S.W. from a CSWE-accredited program.

Accredited by CSWE

The M.S.W. program was established in 1989 and fully accredited in 1993. UND social work programs are continuously reaffirmed for accreditation. UND continues to update its curriculum to adhere to revised standards established by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Top Online Master's in Social Work in the Nation

UND is increasingly regarded as one of the top academic and research institutions in the nation for social work. This M.S.W. online program is ranked as a Top 10 “Most Affordable College for Online Social Work Degrees" by onlineu.org.

#7 - Top Best CSWE Accredited Online M.S.W. Degree Program

#8 - TOP 60 online social work degrees

#11 - Best Online Masters of Social Work Degree Program

#14 - Best Online Masters of Social Work Program

#16 - top 28 online master's in social work

International Social Work
Application Deadlines

FALL: JAN. 15 (ON-CAMPUS CONCENTRATION)
SPRING: JUNE 15 (DISTANCE FOUNDATION)
SUMMER: DEC. 15 (DISTANCE CONCENTRATION)

Social Work Master’s Program

- Study through an online program ranked No. 1 in the nation by Best College Reviews and No. 3 in the nation by Nonprofit Colleges Online.
- 93% retention rate among M.S.W. online students.
- Complete a field internship under the supervision of an experienced field instructor.
- Get involved with our national award-winning Student Social Work Association or Phi Alpha, the social work honor society.
- The Advanced Generalist emphasis prepares you for all practice settings, including clinical social work. You will be prepared to provide advanced social services and develop the skills needed for advanced positions.
Careers in Social Work

16%
Growth rate for social workers through 2026*

47K
Median annual salary for social workers*

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

A Master of Social Work degree from the University of North Dakota offers you flexibility in social work employment as a licensed professional, and gives you additional expertise and training for career advancement. MSW students from UND have gone on to hold the following positions, among others:

- Adult community mental health practitioner at Northwestern Mental Health Center in Crookston, Minn.
- Case manager at McLaren Greater Lansing in Lansing, Mich.
- Chemical dependency and mental health counselor at Great Lakes Recovery Center in Marquette, Mich.
- Mental health practitioner at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota in Detroit Lakes, Minn.
- Social work program director at Central Alabama Aging Consortium in Montgomery, Ala.
- Supervisor at PATH North Dakota in Fargo, N.D.