

**MASTER  
OF  
SOCIAL WORK**

**INFORMATIONAL SUPPLEMENT  
FOR THE  
MSW ADMISSIONS APPLICATION  
GRAD REBEL GATEWAY**



**FALL  
2021**

Revised 6/29/2020

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the UNLV Master of Social Work (MSW) Program. This informational supplement may assist you in applying to our programs through the Grad Rebel Gateway: [Apply Now](#).

Enclosed you will find the following items:

- Statement of Intent format
- Pre-requisites Information
- Code of Ethics review/signature
- 3 professional references: required letter and rating scale (**NOTE: Must be submitted electronically from recommender's professional/business email address**)

**The deadlines for the MSW applications to be completed in the Grad Rebel Gateway:**

**Priority Review: November 1, 2020**

**Advanced Standing MSW Program: Dec 1, 2020**

**Full-Time and Part-Time MSW Programs: Rolling admissions Dec 15, 2020 to Apr 1, 2021**

**Dual Degree MSW/JD Program: Dec 15, 2020**

We will begin reviewing applications as they are received. There are three possible responses to your application prior to the final deadlines:

1. Offer of Admission—you will be asked to provide a response within a time frame of two weeks to the offer of admission.
2. Wait List—you have been placed on the wait list. Those placed on the wait list will remain on the wait list until later reviews, but may notify us if they wish to be removed from the Wait List.
3. Denial—you have been denied an offer of admission to the next cohort of incoming MSW students, but you may ask to meet with the MSW Admissions Chair to discuss the potential of a future application to the program.

We look forward to reviewing your application and we thank you for your interest in the UNLV School of Social Work.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ja Sook Bergquist, LCSW, JD, Ph.D.  
MSW Admissions Coordinator

## STATEMENT OF INTENT

NSHE# \_\_\_\_\_

The profession of social work is intrinsically involved with the lives of individuals, groups, organizations, and communities. Therefore the School of Social Work needs to carefully evaluate pertinent information on all candidates. The Statement of Intent is integral to our ability to evaluate applicants' preparedness, writing acumen, and goodness-of-fit for the program. Admission to the MSW Program is highly competitive; therefore the Statement of Intent provides applicants with the ability to demonstrate their unique qualifications and competencies and assists us to build a successful cohort of incoming students.

Please respond to all of the following statements on three to five double-spaced (12-point font) typewritten pages. Please remove all identifiers on your submitted Statement of Intent except your NSHE number.

- Trace the development of your interest in the field of social work.
- Describe what you consider your personal strengths and areas in need of development in relation to becoming a professional social worker.
- What do you see as the most pressing issues facing our society today? In what ways should we as social workers respond to these issues? If applicable, discuss your personal involvement in working on these issues.
- What are your career objectives as a professional social worker and how do you see your graduate studies as preparing you to meet those objectives?

## PRE-REQUISITE WORKSHEET

You will be asked to list the **course names and numbers** of the following undergraduate liberal arts courses that you have taken to fulfill liberal arts requirements.

➤ English Composition or Literature courses

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ College level math course (college-level Algebra/Math 124 or Statistics)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Courses in Social Sciences (Psychology, Sociology and/or Anthropology)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Course in Fine Arts or Humanities (preferably Philosophy or Art History)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Course in History or Political Science

1. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Course or content in human biological development (preferably, Biology; Psychology will be considered).

1. \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Course or content in diverse cultures, social conditions, or social problems.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

## MSW Applicant Signature

*(Required)*

If I am admitted to the School of Social Work at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas I agree to abide by the Code of Ethics established by the National Association of Social Workers. See [www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp](http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp)

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*Signature*

*Date*

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## REFERENCE FORM UNLV MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Typed or printed name of applicant*

[ ] I waive the right to view this reference form in my file at the UNLV School of Social Work.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

[Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), students have access to their educational record, including letters of recommendation. However, students may waive their right to see letters of evaluation, in which case the letters will be held in confidence. This statement will allow the recommenders to know whether or not you have waived this right.]

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## Recommenders

We ask for recommendations from at least three people who can address your potential as a social work student and future social work professional. References should be from **professional** (not personal) sources and/or academic faculty (dated within the last two years), with the preferred recommendations as follows: one recommendation from the most recent employer in a social work position (if applicable) and one from an academic instructor (Social Work instructor, if applicable) if you have been in an academic setting in the past five (5) years. Please note that the person evaluating you needs to have been in a supervisory/evaluative position in relation to you and not someone like a co-worker, fellow student, pastor, or family member.

You will be asked to provide contact information about the three recommenders. Then a “Request for Recommendation” email will be generated to them asking them to complete the required recommendation information and upload it to the Grad Rebel Gateway via the “Start your recommendation” link in the email. The recommendation information includes a rating scale followed by a letter of reference typed directly into the (expanding) box provided electronically. The rating scale your recommender will be asked to complete follows:

### RATING SCALE

*Please put an “X” in the appropriate space.*

RATING CATEGORIES	OUTSTANDING	ABOVE AVERAGE	ADEQUATE	POOR	N/A	NOT OBSERVED
INNOVATIVE						
KNOWLEDGE OF FIELD						
INTELLECTUAL ABILITY						
COMMUNICATION SKILLS (WRITTEN)						
COMMUNICATION SKILLS (ORAL)						
SOCIAL SKILLS						
PERSEVERANCE						
SOCIAL WORK VALUES AND ETHICS						
SELF-AWARENESS						
ABILITY TO WORK WELL WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS						
ABILITY TO WORK WELL WITH DIVERSE POPULATIONS						

## OVERALL RECOMMENDATION

*Please check one of the following statements.*

- I recommend the applicant, without reservation, as an excellent prospect.
- I have some reservation, but would recommend the applicant as a good prospect.
- I have substantial doubts, but think the applicant should be given a chance to prove himself/herself.
- I feel that the applicant is not suited for the program.

Comments:

In the box below, please provide a recommendation from you concerning the person named above who is an applicant to the UNLV Master of Social Work Program. **(NOTE: Please submit using your professional/work email address)**

Please be sure to include the following information:

- How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
- Describe the skills that demonstrate the applicant's potential in the social work profession.
- Describe the characteristics that may hinder the applicant's effectiveness as a social worker. If you have substantial doubts noted on the following page, please explain.

Additionally, information is particularly desired concerning your knowledge of:

- The candidate's proficiency and promise as a scholar;
- The candidate's ability to work with others and gain from experience;
- The candidate's rating (referencing the table above) compared with other potential social work students you have known.

Recommendation (this box will expand as you write):

### Recommendation Provider Information

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*Electronic Signature*

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*Date*

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*Agency Affiliation*

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*Title*

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*Phone*

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*Email*