

Master Social Work **Master of Social Work**

Under Review | Fall 2026

Proposal Information

Workflow Status

In Progress

Refresh  **Form Submission, Proposer**

collapse ▼

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✓ Jen Panhorst | 3/27/2025 7:10 PM

Department Chair Approval, Psychiatry

Skipped | Department Chair

HSC pre-proposal approval, HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

Approved | HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

✓ Shelly McLaughlin | 4/01/2025 10:03 AM

Notice to Main Campus Associate Provost

Notification Sent

☒ Pamela Cheek

Notification, Proposer

Notification Sent | Proposer

☒ Jen Panhorst

Proposer, Proposer

Approved | Proposer

✓ Jen Panhorst | 4/01/2025 10:06 AM

Registrar Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check

Approved | HSC Technical Check

✓ Todd Hynson | 4/15/2025 10:24 AM

College/School Approval, School of Medicine

Approved | College or School approver

✓ Teresa A. Vigil-Baca | 4/15/2025 12:55 PM

HSC Library Approval, HSC Library

Approved | Library Approval

✓ Melissa Rethlefsen

This is an entirely new program with scope that only has little to moderate overlap with current programs at the HSC. HSLIC does not have funding to provide social work resources for this program at this time, nor are social work materials actively collected on the main campus. We did a brief analysis, based on the syllabi currently under review, of what we would need to support the social work program (not including resources that social work programs would normally have outside these specified materials): • 15 syllabi reviewed • 9 courses require course materials • The courses that don't require material state, "There are no required textbooks for this course. All readings will be provided in Canvas." • The courses that do have required material state, "You are responsible for obtaining the books below for this course. All other readings, as well as videos, will be provided in Canvas." • There are over 200 articles from around 170 unique journals assigned over the 15 courses. • We don't have access to 15 of these journals. We were able to get pricing for 9 of these titles, which totals \$19,078. We are in the process of requesting pricing for the remaining 6 titles. • There are 11 required textbooks. We don't have access to 5 of these. For 1 simultaneous users for these 5 titles, the cost comes to around \$2332. The cost will increase if we want to purchase more seats for these titles. • There are 25 other books mentioned. We don't have access to 19 of these. The cost would be around \$3700, again for 1 user seat per book. Thus, HSLIC will require additional funds to support this program.

5/15/2025 3:43 PM

SGPC Approval, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee

Approved | Chair

✓ Robben Brown | 10/02/2025 3:25 PM

Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies, College or School approver

Approved | College or School approver

✓ Robben Brown | 10/02/2025 3:32 PM

— Maria Lane

FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

- ☒ Joe Anderson
- ☒ Laura Belmonte
- ☒ Sara Ice
- ☒ Mary Rice
- ☒ John Russell
- ☒ SueNoell Stone
- ☒ Jonathan Wheeler
- ☒ Kirsten Thomson
- ☒ Paulo Dutra
- ☒ Randi Archuleta
- ☒ Joan Lucas
- ☒ Julia So
- ☒ Jennifer Henry
- ☒ Christopher Holden
- ☒ Justine Ponce
- ☒ Isabella Goss
- ☒ Vanessa Ferguson
- ☒ Lauren McQuiston
- ☒ Jennifer Laws

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Approved | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

✓ Janet Vassilev

FSCC voted to approve this form 11/14/2025 once the requested changes were made.

11/14/2025 1:20 PM

— Nicole Capehart

HSC Vice President Academic Affairs Approval, HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

Approved | HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

✓ Shelly McLaughlin | 11/14/2025 4:52 PM

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook
Theresa Sherman

HLC Submission, Accreditation

Approval | HLC Submission

Joseph Suilmann

Student Success, Teaching and Research (SSTAR) Approval, Student Success, Teaching and Research Committee

Approval | SSTAR approval

Pamela Kirchner

Hannah Long

Board of Regents Approval, Board of Regents

Approval | Board of Regents Approval

Emily Morelli

External Review - New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans approval, External Review

Approval | New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans approval

Michael Raine

Anna Gay

External Review - HED program approval, External Review

Approval | HED program approval

Michael Raine

Anna Gay

External Review - HED CIP code approval, External Review

Approval | HED CIP code approval

Michael Raine

Anna Gay

Reg. Final Approval/Processing, Registrar

Approval | Registrar final approval

Michael Raine

Maggie Sumruld

Notification, Proposer

Notification | Proposer

Jen Panhorst

Notification, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee

Notification | Chair

Robben Brown

Office of Institutional Analytics Notification, Office of Institutional Analytics

Notification | Notification User

Office of Institutional Analytics

Admissions, Admissions Notifications

Notification | Admissions Staff

Deborah Vigil Kieltyka

Chris Beardemphl

Amanda Opeka

New Program Notification, Office of Assessment

Notification | Office of Assessment notification

Julie Sanchez

Elizabeth Kerl

Ean Henninger

Amanda DiMercurio

EMRT notification, EMRT users

Notification | EMRT user

Enrollment Mgt Reporting Team

Notification, LoboTrax Team

Notification | LoboTrax Staff

Sherri DeLeve
Paula Freitag
Hannah Epstein
Allie Martinez
Glenda Johnson

Proposal Information

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Jen Panhorst

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

jpanhorst@salud.unm.edu

College

School of Medicine

Department

Psychiatry

Campus

Health Sciences Center
(Albuquerque)

Effective Term and Year

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2026

Justification

Program Justification

In July 2023, the New Mexico Higher Education Department awarded UNM \$10.5 million of endowed funds to start a social work program due to behavioral health workforce shortages in the state. Social work is a distinct behavioral health profession, including using a person-in-environment perspective that considers organizational and community impact on individuals, families, and groups. All courses include this lens when learning about how to provide direct practice. Therefore, the program and courses proposed here do not duplicate any currently existing content at UNM.

Program Category and Level

Program Category Degree	Program Level Graduate	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name Master of Social Work
Certificate or Degree Type Master of Science		
Degree/Certificate Level Graduate	Proposed CIP Code ⓘ SOWK	Proposed CIP Title ⓘ Social Work
Plan Options Plan III (Coursework only)		
Is this program also offered online? No		

New program courses

Composition of new program			
Existing courses	Revised courses	New Courses	Total Credits
		SOWK 500	3
		SOWK 501	3
		SOWK 502	3
		SOWK 503	3
		SOWK 504	3
		SOWK 505	3
		SOWK 506	3
		SOWK 507	3
		SOWK 508	3
		SOWK 509	3
		SOWK 600	3
		SOWK 601	3
		SOWK 602	3
		SOWK 603	3
		SOWK 604	3

Existing courses	Revised courses	New Courses	Total Credits
		SOWK 605	3
		SOWK 606	3
		SOWK 607	3
		SOWK 608	3
		SOWK 609	3
		SOWK 610	3
		SOWK 611	3
		SOWK 612	3
		SOWK 613	3
		SOWK 614	3

New Degrees/Certificates Only

Pre-proposal Executive Summary ⓘ

- preproposal executive summary.docx

Program Duplication

Social work is a distinct behavioral health profession, including using a person-in-environment perspective that considers organizational and community impact on individuals, families, and groups. All courses include this lens when learning about how to provide direct practice. Therefore, the program and courses proposed here do not duplicate any currently existing content at UNM.

Correspondence

- MSW Letter of Support.pdf

Pre-proposal Approved?

Approved

Associate Provost Memo

- HED SW proposal.pdf

Proposal File Upload ⓘ

HED Submission Documents

- msw hed-program application form.docx

File Uploads

Document uploads

Associated Quali Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program

No

Catalog Information

Program Description

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree program in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences is for students interested in entering the in-demand profession of social work. Coursework is focused in the essential areas of practice skills with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; social work theory and ethics; policy and advocacy; applied research; and New Mexico culture and history relevant to serving our state's communities. In the final year of study, students will select a concentration specialty of either Clinical Social Work or Medical Social Work to hone their skills in these specific practice areas. Earning an MSW will give students an opportunity to become licensed social workers after graduation and work in a wide variety of settings, including but limited to inpatient and outpatient therapy programs, hospitals, schools, clinics, shelters, and hospice.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants must have earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally or internationally recognized accrediting body and included at least twelve upper-division (300-level or higher) credits in humanities or social sciences. As part of admissions, prospective students must submit an application with transcripts, a personal statement, three letters of recommendation, and a resume/curriculum vitae to the Social Work CAS: <https://socialworkcas.liaisoncas.org/>

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate the UNM MSW program, students must:

- Complete all required courses of the UNM MSW degree program described in the Curriculum/Courses section. This includes:
 - Earning no lower than a C in any course; and
 - Earning no lower than a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- Continued demonstration of abiding by the NASW Code of Ethics as described in Student Rights and Responsibilities;
- Adherence to the rules, regulations, and university policies of the University of New Mexico, including but not limited to the rules and regulations covered in this handbook;
- Be in good standing at time of graduation.

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program

Yes

Licensure Information

Pre-licensure

Licensure requirements met in the following states:

All US States and Territories

Licensure requirements not met in the following states:

Licensure requirements undetermined in the following states:

For each state selected, is there a state or regional licensing board that oversees Professional Licensure?

Yes

State or Regional Licensure Information

Each state and territory requires a Master's in Social Work in order to become a Licensed Masters Social Worker (LMSW). In New Mexico, this is overseen by the New Mexico Board of Social Work Examiners. <https://www.rld.nm.gov/boards-and-commissions/individual-boards-and-commissions/social-work-examiners/>

Education, a post-graduate exam, and a fee are the requirements for an LMSW in most states. Some states, such as New Mexico, have waived the fee requirement. Other states have begun waiving the exam requirement, although this is still in required in New Mexico.

For details on other states, please see:
<https://www.aswb.org/licenses/how-to-get-a-license/licensing-requirements-by-state-or-province/>

National licensing board

No

Professional Credential or Licensure Description

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Council of Social Work Education

Degree Information

Degree Hours

60

Minimum Major Hours

Degree Requirements

Requirements

45

Total Credits

- Complete the following:
 - SOWK500 - Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3)
 - SOWK501 - Social Work Practice Skills with Individuals, Families, and Groups (3)
 - SOWK502 - Anti-Oppressive Social Work Practice in New Mexico (3)
 - SOWK503 - Social Work History, Ethics, and Professionalism (3)
 - SOWK504 - Generalist Social Work Practicum and Seminar I (3)
 - SOWK505 - Research Methods in Social Work (3)
 - SOWK506 - Direct Practice Skills Lab (3)
 - SOWK507 - Social Work Practice with Communities and Organizations (3)
 - SOWK508 - Social Work Policy and Advocacy (3)
 - SOWK509 - Generalist Social Work Practicum and Seminar II (3)
 - SOWK600 - Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care in Social Work (3)
 - SOWK601 - Crisis Intervention Skills in Social Work (3)
 - SOWK602 - The DSM and Psychopharmacology for Social Workers (3)
 - SOWK607 - Advanced Policy for Social Workers (3)
 - SOWK608 - Applied Research in Social Work (3)

Concentration: Clinical Social Work or Medical Social Work

15

Total Credits

- Complete 1 of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - SOWK603 - Clinical Social Work Therapy Skills and Techniques for Youth and Adults (3)
 - SOWK605 - Clinical Social Work Practicum and Seminar I (3)
 - SOWK609 - Differential Diagnosis and Complex Cases in Clinical Social Work (3)
 - SOWK611 - Special Topics in Clinical Social Work (3)
 - SOWK613 - Clinical Social Work Practicum and Seminar II (3)
 - Complete the following:
 - SOWK604 - Medical Social Work Practice Across the Lifespan (3)
 - SOWK606 - Medical Social Work Practicum and Seminar I (3)
 - SOWK610 - Social Work Interventions in Death and Dying (3)
 - SOWK612 - Special Topics in Medical Social Work (3)
 - SOWK614 - Medical Social Work Practicum and Seminar II (3)

Grand Total Credits: 60

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code	Title
Concentration Required	
Yes	

Emphases

Emphasis required	Emphasis Hours
No	
Emphasis Rules	
No Rules	

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

- Upon successful completion of the MSW program, students will be able to:
- Demonstrate understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a social worker, including ethical obligations and cultural humility
 - Apply theory, research, and practice knowledge to effectively engage, assess, and intervene with individuals, groups, and families
 - Demonstrate either clinical or medical specialty practice skills with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities
 - Demonstrate understanding of social workers’ responsibility to broader society, including engaging with policy and advocating against injustices
 - Evaluate successes and areas for improvement as a social work practitioner, including critically analyzing and integrating new research into practice

Registrar Office Only

CM Program Code	BANP	Banner Program Code	Major Code
Master Social Work			
Online Program Code	Online Major Code	Pre-major Program Code	Pre-major Major Code

CIP Code

Concentration Inheritance

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Catalog

Catalog Activation Date

Notes