



Distance Education Master of SOCIAL WORK

DISTANCE EDUCATION IS A 3-YEAR PROGRAM AND THE NEXT ANTICIPATED ADMISSION CYCLE IS FOR 2028.

The **MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)** program at California State University, Long Beach prepares graduates to serve as professional social workers who excel in all levels of practice in economically and socially diverse environments. The MSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and consists of sixty (60) semester units of coursework and 1,000 hours of practicum internship.

DISTANCE EDUCATION MSW PROGRAM: The CSULB School of Social Work has offered a Distance Education MSW Program throughout California since 1995. The program is offered in partnership with the College of Continuing and Professional Education. Current distance education sites are located in the Sonoma County and Ventura County areas. Most Distance Education courses are offered via interactive television (ITV) with in-person visits by experienced CSULB faculty. Students enrolled in the Distance Education program have access to online CSULB resources (e.g., library databases) and local site coordinators who attend all classes, help meet student learning needs, and develop practicum placements for the two years of internship.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE: The Distance Education MSW is a three-year program with a specialization in Child and Family Wellbeing. Three academic years (comprised of fall and spring semesters and two summer sessions) are required to complete the MSW degree. All classes are held on Saturdays. Courses are taken in a specific sequence (see sample below):

Term 1 (Fall 2025): SW 503A: Behavior & Environment: Prenatal thru Adol SW 505: Foundation Social Policy	Term 5 (Spring 2027): 600-Level Elective #2 SW 592: Foundation Social Work Macro Practice SW 596B: Foundation Practicum Education II
Term 2 (Spring 2026): SW 503B: Behavior & Environment: Yng Adult to Late Life SW 594A: Research Methods I	Term 6 (Summer 2027): 600-Level Elective #3 SW 605: Advanced Social Policy
Term 3 (Summer 2026): SW 500: Foundation Social Work Micro Practice SW 594B: Research Methods II	Term 7 (Fall 2027): SW 620: Advanced Social Work Practice: CFW SW 680A: Advanced Practicum Education I SW 698A or C: MSW Thesis I or Applied SW Project I
Term 4 (Fall 2026): 600-Level Elective #1 SW 570: Foundation Social Work Practice with Groups SW 596A: Foundation Practicum Education I	Term 8 (Spring 2028): SW 670: SW Leadership and Management SW 680B: Advanced Practicum Education II SW 699A or C: MSW Thesis II or Applied Project II

PRACTICUM EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: Practicum internships are arranged locally in community agencies by site coordinators during the second and third academic years of the program. Each student has two practicum placements and concurrent enrollment in practice courses during the course of study. Each placement involves 500 hours of internship, with a total of 1000 hours completed to fulfill degree requirements. Students complete 16 hours of internship each week between the months of September and May. Practicum internship hours are completed through either two 8-hour weekdays or one 8-hour weekday and two 4-hour weekday periods.

STIPEND OPPORTUNITIES: Part-time CA Title IV-E Public Child Welfare awards are available to eligible employees of a County Child Welfare Service agency, County Departments of Social Services, or the California Department of Social Services. Applicants must provide a letter of support from their agency administrator/director. Each part-time Title IV-E student recipient receives reimbursement for tuition, fees, educational supplies, costs for required books, and a travel allowance for each day of class or practicum internship.

DISTANCE EDUCATION MSW PROGRAM

FALL 2028 MSW ADMISSION & APPLICATION INFORMATION

The following outline provides tentative information regarding the admission and application requirements for the Distance Education MSW Program at CSULB for Fall 2028 admission. This information is subject to change. Please refer to our School of Social Work website at the following link for the most up-to-date information: <http://www.csulb.edu/college-of-health-human-services/school-of-social-work>.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for the 3-Year Distance Education MSW program:

- Completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college/university no later than Spring 2028
- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Completion of an approved prerequisite course in Elementary Statistics (with a letter grade of “C” or better; a letter grade of “C-” does not meet the requirement) no later than Spring 2028

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please refer to the “MSW Application Guidelines” posted on the School of Social Work website. Applying to the MSW program has two distinct steps, submitted simultaneously via the Cal State Apply application (www.calstate.edu/apply).

STEP 1: Apply to the University (CSULB), Quadrants One through Three:

- Apply to the University as a graduate student by completing Quadrants One through Three
- Indicate your intended major as “Social Work - Distance Learning” when you apply to the University
- Pay the \$70.00 application fee for the University application
- Submit original transcripts from the postsecondary school where your undergraduate degree was complete directly to University Enrollment Services

STEP 2: Apply to the School of Social Work MSW Program, Quadrant Four:

Complete the School of Social Work specific questions, recommendation requests and document uploads in Quadrant Four via Cal State Apply. The application must include the following:

- Quadrant Four School of Social Work Questions
- Professional, Volunteer and Social Services Experience/Résumé Document
- Personal Statement Document
- Unofficial Transcript Document (if Elementary Statistics course not completed at undergraduate degree institution)
- At least three (3) References, submitted via Cal State Apply
- Elementary Course Syllabus (if applicable, submitted via email)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2028

The MSW application process opens on Oct. 1, 2027 while the submission deadline for University Enrollment Services and the School of Social Work is January 15, 2028.

- The Cal State Apply application closes at 11:59pm on January 15, 2028.

ADMISSION QUESTIONS?

Contact the School of Social Work Admissions Office:

Email: CHHS-SW@csulb.edu Tel: (562) 985-5654

PROGRAM QUESTIONS? Please Email: Tory.Cox@csulb.edu

