
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS & ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The PPSC Program is open to all students who have graduated with a BA degree from an accredited university and are enrolled in the 60-unit MSW curriculum at California State University, Long Beach. Each candidate must be a part of the Child and Family Well-being concentration and obtain a certificate of clearance from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC).

1. Students must attend a PPSC Orientation. Students will receive all of the information and materials related to the PPSC Program at the orientation.

2. The PPSC application must be submitted by the deadline.

3. The submission of 1-2-page double spaced personal statement must accompany the application by the announced deadline. This statement should include a student’s knowledge of a school social worker’s role and their reasons for pursuing the credential. The attributes they have that will assist them in preparing to be a school social worker, and how they will use this credential after graduation.

4. After the orientation interested students must apply online for a Certificate of Clearance with the Commission on Teacher Credentialing AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Students will not be accepted into the PPSC program until COC is received. Please see link below for certificate of clearance instructions.


5. Students must open a file with the CSULB Credentialing Center prior to the first day of classes in which they are entering the PPSC program – with verification of having done so sent to the PPSC Coordinator.

6. Students must take all 3 section of the CBEST or provide proof of meeting the basic skills requirement prior to the start of their second-year field placement- Please click on link below for latest details regarding this requirement.


   a. Options for satisfying basic skills requirement:
      - Pass CBEST (students must take all three sections of CBEST)
      - Pass CSET Multiple Subjects PLUS Writing Skills Examination
      - Pass the CSU Early Assessment Program of the CSU Placement Examination
      - Achieve Qualifying Score on the SAT or ACT
      - College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations
      - Pass a Basic Skills Examination from Another State
      - Coursework in reading, writing, and mathematics (see above link for more info)
      - Qualifying Coursework and Exam (see above link for more info)
7. Students must complete any/all health screening (i.e. T.B. test, measles vaccination, etc.) the individual schools may require prior to entry into the School Social Work field placement.

8. Students must successfully complete one advanced field placement experience, totaling 600 hours (typically 20 hours per week except advanced standing students), in a designated school setting; 450 hours are designated for School Social Work activities; 150 hours are designated for Child Welfare and Attendance activities. The students must be under the supervision of a MSW with a PPSC in School Social Work and Child Welfare and Attendance. Students are strongly encouraged to have experience in working with at least two different school aged populations: elementary, middle and/or high school; with students of diverse life experiences and backgrounds including students who are racially or ethnically different, sexual minority youth (LGBTQ+), special education students, homeless and foster youth and students with mental health needs.

9. Students must have experience in working with at least two different school aged populations: elementary, middle and/or high school; with students of diversity (at least 10 students of a racial or ethnic background that is different from your own) which include regular and special education students.

10. In addition, to completing the Comprehensive Skills Evaluation used for all MSW students in field placements; the field instructor will also complete the PPSC Comprehensive Skills Evaluation (mid-year and final) and the Required Activities Checklist document and submit them to the PPSC Program Coordinator.

11. Students must successfully complete the School Social Work class (SW665) taken either prior to or concurrently with the school social work field placement.

12. Students must attend four required School Social Work seminars offered in the evening during the regular academic school year. (2 in the Fall & 2 in the Spring)

13. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA for all semesters (if, at any time students are on academic probation, students are no longer eligible for the program) and earn a letter grade of “B” or better in SW 665 course and successfully complete the 60-unit MSW curriculum in the Child and Family Well-being concentration at California State University, Long Beach, School of Social Work.

If you have additional questions regarding the PPSC program, please contact the Coordinator, Saana’ Polk, MSW, PPSC. Professor Polk can be reached in SPA 132, at (562) 985-4647, or at Saana.Polk@csulb.edu.