

Berkeley Social Welfare

MSW Admissions Checklist

Before You Apply

Why Choose Berkeley?

- Explore Berkeley Graduate Admissions at <http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/choose-berkeley/>.
- Get a feel for the type of work and classes you would be taking here! Explore Berkeley graduate courses online in the *Berkeley Academic Guide*: <http://guide.berkeley.edu/>.

Explore Berkeley Social Welfare!

- Visit our programs online** at <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/academics>. Review “Curricula-at-a-Glance,” areas of specialization, special program options, and more! Compare similar documents from MSW, MFT, and other programs to aid you in your decision-making process.
- Attend an Admissions Information Session or Recruiting Event.** See our schedule at <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/admissions-recruiting>.
- Visit us!** Contact us to schedule an admissions advising visit: send an email to swadm@berkeley.edu; or give us a call: (510) 642-9042

Consider Financial Aspects of Graduate School

- Begin planning for any needed financial assistance arrangements as far in advance of anticipated enrollment as possible.
- Check out tuition and required fee information, along with the variety of support resources available to Berkeley Social Welfare graduate students at <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/student-funding>.

Prepare Required Application Materials

- Request/obtain required transcripts.
- Identify and contact your recommenders; verify their contact information.
- Prepare your résumé/CV highlighting your relevant social work experience. Download our guidelines at <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/msw-application-process>.
- Prepare your admissions application essay statements. Download and review our guidelines and tips for “Preparing Your MSW Admissions Application Statements” at <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/msw-application-process>.
- Prepare any additional application information needed to apply for special program options (e.g., Child Welfare Scholars; Latinx Center of Excellence).

Admission Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the Berkeley MSW Program, applicants must meet all of the following minimum requirements:

- Possession of a bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution.
- A satisfactory scholastic average, generally a minimum grade-point average of B or better (3.0 on a 4-point scale) in all coursework after the first two years of undergraduate study (typically the last 60 semester units, or last 90 quarter units).
- Sufficient undergraduate preparation and training for graduate study in social welfare.
- A course in research methods, statistics or quantitative reasoning.
- The equivalent of one full year (2,100 hours) of paid employment or volunteer experience related to social welfare or human services. For applicants to the specialization in Strengthening Organizations and Communities (SOC), the recommended minimum experience requirement is *two years* (4,200 hours). **All hours must be acquired by the application deadline.**
- Applicants to concurrent degree programs (e.g., MSW/MPH; MSW/MPP) must meet eligibility requirements and admissions standards of both the School of Social Welfare and the respective concurrent degree program, including any examination requirements.
 - The GRE revised General Test is **not** required for the MSW-only program, but applicants to the MSW/MPH or MSW/MPP concurrent degree program are required to take the GRE. We do not require any GRE Subject Exams. Acceptable GRE scores are from tests taken between December 1, 2013 and November 19, 2018. There is no minimum GRE score required.
- For international applicants from a country or political entity where English is not the official language, a satisfactory score on the TOEFL exam or other acceptable equivalent evidence of English language proficiency to do graduate work is required.
 - For the TOEFL, a minimum score of 90 is required. Acceptable TOEFL scores are from tests taken between June 1, 2017 and November 19, 2018. TOEFL tests taken after November 19, 2018, will not be valid for admission into the 2019-20 academic year.

Application Checklist

- UC Berkeley Graduate and Professional **Application for Admission** (<https://gradapp.berkeley.edu/apply/>) fully completed and submitted online by the submission deadline: **December 3, 2018, 8:59 p.m., Pacific Standard Time.**
- Non-refundable **Application Fee**: The fee for applying to the university is \$105 for domestic students and \$125 for international students. The fee is non-refundable and payment information must be provided before submitting your application.
- Transcripts from ALL college-level coursework undertaken** uploaded to "Academic History" section of the online application. Transcripts may be unofficial but **must show degrees conferred** (if any), the institution's name, and the applicant's full name. Transcripts must be legible.
- Three **Letters of Recommendation**: one academic and two professional.
- Résumé/CV** highlighting your relevant social work experience uploaded to "Supporting Materials" section of online application.
- Statement of Purpose** and **Personal History Statement** uploaded to online application.
- If required, GRE and/or TOEFL official scores** reported in online application and sent to UC Berkeley (**Institution Code: 4833**).
- If applying for Child Welfare Scholars or Latinx Center of Excellence**, program application uploaded as PDF file to online admissions application.