



Requirements for Temporary Approval for Michigan School Social Workers

Temporary approval by the State Department of Education is required for employment as a school social worker. Faculty of the School of Social Work who granted the Master of Social Work degree to the applicant recommends temporary approval to the State Department of Education. Evidence of the knowledge and competencies outlined in the “State Rules and Regulations for School Social Work” must be on file with the University. Wayne State University, Master of Social Work graduates who have fulfilled requirements to meet the Temporary Approval, can apply to have a SSW-310 University Recommendation completed. Prospective job applicants then can provide this form as proof of eligibility for temporary approval. Once the applicant has received an offer of employment, the employing school district then completes the lower portion of the SSW-310 and forwards it to the State of Michigan, Department of Education.

Requirements are as follows:

- Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree.
- Completion of a minimum of 500 hours of graduate level field work with children in a school or children, youth and family setting. Please note that students who enter the MSW program with Advanced Standing and enroll in a two-day a week field placement must complete an additional **50** clock hours to meet this 500-hour requirement.
- Completion of **one** of the three Interpersonal Practice tracks. The theory track courses include content on child psychopathology and other developmental challenges, which is required for the State of Michigan Temporary Approval. In each track, students are also exposed to content on practice methods with children/families, violence, substance abuse, and a range of other topics that broaden their knowledge and skill base for work in the schools:
 - Cognitive/Behavioral Track - SW8340 and SW8350 (8 cr.)
 - Family Systems Track - SW 8380 and SW 8390 (8 cr.)
 - Psychodynamic Track - SW 8360 and SW 8370 (8 cr.)
- Completion of the following required courses:
 - Social Services in the Schools - SW 8180 (3 cr.)
 - Psychosocial Assessment of Children and Youth - SW 8330 (3 cr.)

All students taking SW 8180 and SW 8330 or their equivalents beginning in the Fall of 2015 must earn a letter grade of B or above in each class to earn Temporary Approval.

For those who already have a MSW degree, but did not meet the above requirements upon graduation, the requirements for Temporary Approval for Michigan School Social Workers may be satisfied by completing at least 500 hours of post graduate experience with children, youth and families under the supervision of a LMSW social worker and completion of the required content areas of SW in the school setting, Psychopathology and Psychosocial Assessment of Children & Youth and the Interpersonal Track courses if these were not previously taken. **Refresher workshops do not satisfy the content area requirements for students who had not previously met requirements for temporary approval.**

Please note that continuing education and refresher courses do not meet the requirement for the MSW degree.

For additional information on the requirements for Temporary Approval for Michigan School Social Workers, please contact:

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