

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Thompson Home
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Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 577-4409

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 in a school or child welfare 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.)
 - **Or**
 - Family Systems Track - SW 8540/SW 8610 and SW 8780/SW 8790 (8 cr.)
 - **Or**
 - 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.)

For those who already have a MSW degree, but did not meet the above requirements upon graduation, may satisfy requirements for Temporary Approval for Michigan School Social

Workers by completing at least 500 hours of post graduate experience in a school or child welfare setting and by completing continuing education workshops offered during the Winter term. **While these meet requirements for School Social Work Approval, they do not meet the requirement for the MSW degree.** Please contact the School of Social Work Office of Admissions and Student Services for the workshop offerings at (313) 577-4409

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

Julie Alter-Kay, MSW Academic Advisor at (313) 577-4409

Revised 5/10/JAK