

BSW Degree Program Admission Criteria Checklist

- 1. Complete an application.
- 2. Submit a resume.
- 3. Complete SWK 2123 Introduction to Social Work, SWK 2143 Professional Writing, and SWK 3013 Social Work Values and Ethics, with a grade of “C” or better.
- 4. Have a 2.00 cumulative GPA, as identified on a UAM transcript.
- 5. Have a 2.50 cumulative GPA in social work courses.
- 6. Have completed at least twenty hours of volunteer service with a social or human service agency.
- 7. Submit a personal narrative of *at least* eight pages of content (not including title page or any reference pages) that covers the following:
 - a. Your understanding of the social work profession, including its historical development, the NASW Code of Ethics and its purpose, the profession’s mission and values, and how the profession differs from sociology, psychology, psychiatry, and counseling.
 - b. How do you personally feel about the core values listed in the NASW Code of Ethics? Is there any value with which you have any particular difficulty? What influence, if any, has the Code of Ethics had on your decision-making in the past? Give at least one example of this, if possible. How do you think you can apply the Code of Ethics in your decision-making process in the future?
 - c. Discuss why you want to enter the social work profession. Include in this a discussion of the following: what drew you to the profession, any personal experiences you have had with social workers, what specific aspect of the social work profession do you most strongly identify with (for example, you may see yourself as a natural advocate, or you may be drawn to policy).
 - d. What populations are you most interested in working with, and why? Is there a population with which you would prefer not to work? Are you aware of any personal characteristics, experiences, or any other reasons that contribute to your hesitancy to work with this population?
 - e. Discuss the person: environment perspective and your understanding of why this perspective is important to the social work profession.
 - f. What is your understanding of generalist social work practice?

- g. Discuss three of your personal strengths and three of your personal weaknesses. How will your strengths help you become a professional social worker? How do you plan to overcome your weaknesses?
- h. What is your understanding of the importance of self-care for professional social workers? Do you currently have a self-care plan or routine? If so, please explain your plan/routine. What is an aspect of self-care that you want to incorporate?
- i. Discuss your future goals as a professional (for example, graduate school or social work employment). How do you see your social work career path unfolding, and what is your life-long learning plan?

8. Two letters of reference. These must be either academic or work-related references.

9. Be willing to consent to a criminal background check if instructed to do so.

10. Complete a panel interview with all current social work faculty.

11. **Human Service/Social Service Work and/or Volunteer Experiences**

(Be sure to list your required 20 hours of human or social service volunteer experience.)

NOTE: Your time sheet(s) and volunteer experience evaluation form is required and must accompany this application.

Criminal Background:

Have you ever been charged with, have a pending charge, or ever been convicted or plead guilty to a:

- Felony _____ Yes _____ No
- Class A or B Misdemeanor _____ Yes _____ No
- Class C Misdemeanor
(Other than Traffic Tickets) _____ Yes _____ No

Please explain any pending charge(s) or the final disposition of charges, including dates.

NOTE: Revealing any criminal history does not automatically disqualify you from being accepted as a BSW degree program student, but failing to reveal such experiences constitutes a violation of the *NASW Code of Ethics* and may be grounds for termination from the BSW degree program. You have an obligation to report any changes in your criminal history to the Department of Social Work’s Director within one week of the change. **You should be aware that a criminal record may not disqualify you from being accepted into the BSW degree program, but may disqualify you from certain field practicum opportunities, licensure, and/or some employment opportunities.** It is your responsibility to determine if any criminal history will disqualify you from licensure or any employment opportunities. Additionally, you should be aware that agencies may require a background check for social work interns or new hires at their discretion. You will bear any costs associated with such background checks that may be requested by agencies.

Demographic Information

(This information is needed for the Council on Social Work Education and program planning. It is not mandatory that you complete this information; however, your doing so will be greatly appreciated).

Gender: Male
 Female

Financial Aid: Yes
 No

Ethnicity: Anglo American/Caucasian
 Hispanic American/Latino
 African American
 Native American/American Indian
 Asian American/Pacific Islander
 Other, Please Specify: _____

Classification at the University of Arkansas at Monticello:

Freshman
 Sophomore
 Junior
 Senior

Marital Status: Never Married
 Married
 Divorced
 Widowed

Work Status: Full-Time
 Part-Time
 Not Employed

Number of Hours Working Per Week: _____
Number of Hours Working Per Week: _____

Student Agreement (*Read and Initial each item below*)

1. _____ I understand that the BSW degree program at the University of Arkansas at Monticello received Full Accreditation Status with the Council on Social Work Education through October 2029.
2. _____ I have read, and have a good understanding of the *National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics* and agree to maintain conduct reflective of the values of the social work profession.
3. _____ I have read, understand, and agree to adhere to the University of Arkansas at Monticello's *Academic Code of Conduct* and other policies found in the *UAM Student Handbook*: <http://www.uamont.edu/pdf/Student%20Handbook.pdf>.
4. _____ I have read, understand, and agree to adhere to the *Social Work Student Handbook*: <http://uam-web2.uamont.edu/pdfs/sbs/sw/studenthandbook.pdf>
5. _____ I agree to join a nationally recognized social work association as a BSW student member as soon as I gain acceptance into the BSW degree program, and remain a current student member until I graduate the BSW degree program. (*If you are unsure about the status of the social work association you are interested in joining, please consult your advisor.*)
6. _____ I understand and agree to obtain student liability insurance at the 1,000,000/5,000,000 level at my own expense, **ONLY when instructed to do so by the Social Work Field Education Director.**
7. _____ I understand that I must be advised by a social work faculty member before or during registration for each semester.
8. _____ I agree to attend all mandatory student orientation sessions and other mandatory meetings required by the social work faculty (*date and time to be announced*).
9. _____ I understand that I may be dismissed from the BSW degree program by the Department of Social Work's Director for a violation of the *NASW Code of Ethics*, policies and procedures found in the UAM Student Handbook, repeated occurrences of unprofessional performance, or a failure to fulfill any items in this student agreement.

By signing below, I attest that I have read and understand this document, have completed it of my own free will, and answered all questions truthfully and to the best of my ability.

Student Name (Printed)

Date

Student Name (Signature)

Date