

Take the next step in your social work career and earn your Master of Social Work at Cal State LA!

Prepare to make a meaningful difference in individuals, families, organizations, and communities through Cal State LA's Master of Social Work (MSW) program.

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) since 1999, our MSW program features an **Advanced Urban Generalist** focus designed to prepare students for practice across micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

Choose between the 2-Year or 3-Year MSW Pathway That Fits You

Traditional Two-Year MSW Program

Our full-time, two-year pathway provides a comprehensive graduate social work education that integrates classroom learning with hands-on field experience.

- **2 years | 60 semester units**
- Begins in the **fall**.
- Classes are held primarily on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.
- Field internship: **16 hours per week in Year 1**
- Field internship: **20 hours per week in Year 2**

Traditional Three-Year MSW Program

Looking for a program with coursework spread across a longer period? The three-year pathway provides an alternative schedule while maintaining the same 60-unit MSW curriculum.

- **3 years | 60 semester units**
- Begins in the **fall**.
- Classes are held **one evening per week and on Saturdays**.
- Field internship begins in **Year 2**
- Field internship: **16 hours per week in Year 2**
- Field internship: **20 hours per week in Year 3**

Invest in Your Future

Cal State LA MSW students may have access to a variety of specialized stipend opportunities supporting professional interests such as **public child welfare, behavioral health, mental health, geriatric social work, and services for aging and vulnerable adults**.

Stipend opportunities may provide significant financial support, with several programs offering awards of **up to \$25,000 or more**, depending on eligibility, funding availability, and program requirements.

Students must first be admitted to the MSW program before applying for a stipend. Stipends are competitive, and eligibility requirements and service commitments vary by program.

Admissions at a Glance

Traditional Two- and Three-Year Programs

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum **2.75 GPA** in the last 60 semester units or 90 quarter units
- Three prerequisite courses
- Three references
- **GRE not required**

Ready to Make an Impact?

Join a community of future social work professionals preparing to serve diverse populations and respond to the needs of urban communities.

Apply for 2027 Admission

Traditional Two- and Three-Year Programs

Application Deadline: **January 15, 2027**

Applications are reviewed on a **rolling admissions basis**, so prospective students are encouraged to submit a complete application early.

Learn More

Attend an [MSW Information Meeting](#) to learn more about program options, admission requirements, the application process, field education, and opportunities available to MSW students.

Your path to advanced social work practice starts at Cal State LA.