Frequently Asked Questions Regarding **Applications to the MSW Program**

**(For candidates applying for Fall 2020)**

1. **Where do I find the application?** The Social Work Department Application forms are at <http://www.csueastbay.edu/sw/apply-to-msw.html> and must be submitted in hard copy/paper format. **NOTE:** The University also requires an online application, available at <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/graduate>
2. **When are applications accepted?** The MSW program admits students in the fall. Applications are submitted the fall before one intends to begin school, starting October 1st until the middle of December. This year’s deadline will be December 16, 2019.
3. **How do I find out more about the program and the application process?** Visit our website and come to a fall INFORMATION SESSION (dates posted on the website).
4. **How much is tuition?** A year’s tuition is about $8,500. This does not include textbooks.
5. **Can I attend the MSW program part-time?** Currently, the program is only a full-time, hybrid program, with most classes meeting weekly 2 to 2.5 hour classes with an online component.
6. **What is a typical schedule for students?** First year students: Monday and Wednesday classes, and two additional days of field practicum (16 hours). Second year students: Monday and Tuesday classes, and two-three days of field practicum (20-24 hours). Most classes and practicums are between regular business hours, 8-5, depending on scheduling.
7. **How do I find out if I am accepted into the program?** Applicants will begin receiving mailed letter notifications as early as March, but as late as June, depending on the applicant pool and how quickly applicants reply with acceptance confirmations.
8. **How do I apply for financial aid?** Follow instructions on the Financial Aid webpage <http://www.csueastbay.edu/financialaid/> Be aware that the MSW Program does not have any control over financial aid. Sometimes students need to make a decision about whether they are accepting an offer of admission before they hear from the Financial Aid Office.
9. **If I have not completed the prerequisites (human biology or anatomy/physiology course and a statistics course) yet, can I still apply?** Yes, please apply, but if you are admitted, you will need to provide proof of completion of your prerequisites by the end of the first academic year of school. Pre-requisite courses can be completed at any institution of higher education; however, please note you must receive academic credit that appears on a transcript and receive a grade of C or better. The MSW department typically offers fully online human biology and statistics courses during the summer that meet the prerequisite requirements. Many newly admitted students choose to take these courses over the summer before beginning the program.
10. **How can I increase my undergraduate GPA?** You cannot change your GPA once you have graduated, however, we may take into consideration coursework completed after the undergraduate degree and/or special circumstances that may have impacted your undergraduate GPA. Our application process also considers social service work and/or volunteer experience. If your GPA is lower than 2.8, you may submit a brief memo, not to exceed 250 words, describing the special circumstances you would like us to take into consideration in the admissions process.
11. **Cal State Apply is asking for a personal statement.****What do I do?** The Department Application requires a personal statement. You do not have to submit it to Cal State Apply; simply write “statement submitted to the department.”
12. **For questions regarding Letters of Recommendation (LOR), please see the FAQ page for LOR.**