

# **SMSU Social Work Program**

## **Application to the Major**

### **Bachelor of Science in Social Work**

## Applicant Information and Signature

This form must be completed by the applicant and will remain a part of the applicant's permanent file.

Name of Applicant:

Preferred Name:

Permanent Address:

City: State: Zip:

College Address (if different from permanent):

City: State: Zip:

Cell Phone Number:

SMSU Email Address:

Non-SMSU Email Address:

Student ID Number:

Total Credits Earned: Credits This Semester:

**State laws that govern the licensure and regulation of social workers will most often request a criminal history background check on all applicants for initial licensure. Additionally, most internship agencies will also request a criminal history background check on all applicants. We ask the following questions to determine if your conviction history may be problematic for internship placement.**

Have you been convicted, including a finding of guilt, whether or not the adjudication of guilt was withheld or not entered, an admission of guilt, or a no contest plea of a felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor? (This DOES NOT include juvenile convictions or petty misdemeanors)

     No                      Yes (if yes, please provide an explanation of the issue on a separate piece of paper)

Have you been convicted, including a finding or verdict of guilt, whether or not the adjudication of guilt was withheld or not entered, an admission of guilt, or a no contest plea, of a crime against a minor or vulnerable adult?

     No                      Yes (if yes, please provide an explanation of the issue on a separate piece of paper)

**I hereby affirm that I will abide by the SMSU Student Handbook, the Social Work Program Student Handbook, the NASW Code of Ethics and any professional and programmatic guidelines pertaining to use of social media.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that giving false information or omitting requested information in any part of this application could result in rejection of my application or dismissal from the program should I be accepted. Access to individual student files will be limited to the Social Work Program faculty/staff and the Social Work Program admissions committee. Individual social work students may access all information in their own files excluding any personal recommendations that have been denoted for non-release. The information submitted will be used by the Social Work Program admissions committee in making decisions regarding acceptance to and/or continuation in the program and by program faculty for advisement of individual students.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications are due by 3:30 pm on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Applications should be emailed to [james.smalley@smsu.edu](mailto:james.smalley@smsu.edu) or dropped off in the Social Science office (SS 103)

## PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Please address the following questions in a personal statement that is typed and double-spaced in a separate document. Each question should be about one page long. Your statement should be a serious reflection on your thoughts and feelings about being a social work major, and should reflect your best writing skills. It will be considered carefully by the social work faculty as part of the application and admissions process. Write in full paragraphs, using professional spelling and grammar and APA formatting.

- Why do you want to be a social work major? What personal (family or friends), academic, work, volunteer and/or community experiences influenced this decision? What life experiences have you had that relate to social work?
- What do you see as a major social problem in our society today? Why do you think this problem exists and how can social work contribute to ending the problem?
- What particular strengths do you bring to the social work profession? What limitations do you perceive you have? How do you plan to develop your strengths and improve your limitations?
- Respect for diverse populations is a hallmark of the social work profession. Describe experiences you have had working with people from diverse populations (i.e., religious, racial, ethnic, ability, socio-economic, gender identity, and sexual orientation) and identify any challenges you anticipate working with people from diverse populations

*The following information and question are not used for admission decisions, but to help faculty in planning internship opportunities and potential job recommendations.*

Standard 2.08 of the NASW Code of Ethics (Impairment of Colleagues), states “(a) social workers who have direct knowledge of a social work colleague’s impairment that is due to personal problems, psychosocial distress, substance abuse, or mental health difficulties and that interferes with practice effectiveness should consult with that colleague when feasible and assist the colleague in taking remedial action. (b) Social workers who believe that a social work colleague’s impairment interferes with practice effectiveness and that the colleague has not taken adequate steps to address the impairment should take action through appropriate channels established by employers, agencies, NASW, licensing and regulatory bodies, and other professional organizations.”

Based on this Standard, do you have any personal problems (substance abuse or mental health issues) that may affect your ability to be a social worker? Have you taken steps to address these concerns? If not, how might you plan to address them?

**A complete SMSU Social Work Program Application to the Major needs the following:**

- Application Form with Signatures
- Personal Statements on separate pages
- DARS
- Resume that shows social services work and volunteer experience (connect with SMSU Career Center if you need assistance in creating a resume)
- Release of information form
- Demographic information form (this will be separated from your application when you turn it in)

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## RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Without a written release of information, the SMSU Social Work Program cannot provide any letters of reference or recommendations.

First Name:

Middle Name:

Last Name:

I grant permission to the SMSU Social Work Program to release information regarding my academic performance for the purpose of letter of recommendations or references.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

This information WILL NOT be used for the application to the major, but is only requested to help the program ensure we are reaching a diverse group of students for the major. You DO NOT need to complete this form, but your information is greatly appreciated.

Gender

Male          Female          Other

Race:

African-American

Asian or Pacific Islander

Chicana/o or Latina/o

Native American/American Indian

White/Caucasian-American

Other: