

ADMISSION TO THE KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Kent School of Social Work
Oppenheimer Hall
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

Phone: (502) 852-6402
Email: bswkent@louisville.edu
Website: louisville.edu/kent

Admission Requirements

Persons interested in admission to the Kent School should contact the BSW Program. We encourage potential applicants to consult the BSW page on the Kent School website (<http://louisville.edu/kent/academics/bachelor-of-science-in-social-work>). If you wish to discuss the application process in person, you may contact the BSW Program to make an appointment.

Kent School seeks mature students with a demonstrated ability to work with people, emotional stability, good interpersonal skills, and the ability to perform well academically. To ensure that entering students meet these standards, the faculty has established the following guidelines.

Once students are accepted by University of Louisville's Admission Office and declare a major as Social Work, they are admitted to the University as lower division students. However, admission to lower division does not guarantee admission to the upper division Social Work Program.

Criteria for Admission to the Lower Division Social Work Program

Admission in Good Standing

To be admitted to the lower division, beginning freshmen must meet the following requirements:

- Graduate from an accredited high school with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher; have a GED, or equivalent by petition (for example, homeschool education); and
- Completion of the pre-college curriculum; and
- Achieve a composite ACT score of 20 or higher.

Transfer Students

Transfer applicants with 24 hours or more must have a college grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be admitted in good standing. Transfer students without these may apply for conditional admissions.

Change of Major (Intra-University Transfer) Students

Students who have completed at least one semester in another school or college of the University of Louisville and have a grade point average of at least 2.5 and have a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or above for all college coursework may apply for an intra-university transfer to the lower division of the BSW Program. They must complete an online Change Major form that can be found on Ulink. Students admitted through this process must be advised before registering for courses in their first semester in the lower division curriculum.

After completion of 45 hours of college credit, they may be considered for admission to the Social Work Program. Admission to the upper division Social Work Program is conducted without discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, age, creed, ethnic or national origin, disability, or sexual orientation. If the students have no para-professional work history, they are encouraged to pursue extensive volunteer experience prior to application.

Criteria for Admission to the Upper Division Social Work Program

Prior to application for admission to the Social Work Program, students must have:

- Earned 45 semester hours of college credit;
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a four-point scale.

Current UofL Students

Current university students must:

- Contact the BSW Program at bswkent@louisville.edu to declare Social Work as a major.
- Supply two letters of reference supporting the student's application and providing information about character, maturity, stability, achievements, interactional skills and special qualities. These letters may come from professors, high school teachers, counselors, supervisors, professional social workers, and other professionals, but not from relatives of the student.
- Submit a 700–1000-word personal statement with the application. The personal statement (double-spaced, 12-point font) should address the following topics: a) your commitment to the goals, purposes, ethics and values of social work; and b) the intellectual and personal qualifications that will enable you to practice social work successfully.

Note: If there are gaps or deficiencies in your academic record, please address these in an addendum to your statement.

- A signed and dated Secondary Application Form including: the Statement of authenticity, Release and Waiver for admissions and student records, Ethical Standard of Behaviors, program plan selection, and if applicable transfer degree information.
- Current resume that includes the following information: any places of employment and volunteer experiences that you have had in the last 2 years including place of employment or volunteer activity, dates of employment or volunteer experience, job title or position held, description of job responsibilities.

If you have been convicted of a felony, please include a description of the circumstances and outcomes of the conviction. Please note that prior convictions for criminal offenses may preclude one's ability to be licensed as a social worker in many states. In addition, many practicum sites require background checks and periodic drug screenings. Any negative findings that affect agency placement may also prevent successful completion of the requirements for the degree. Applicants and students should consider these barriers in their educational planning.

Applications to the upper division are accepted based on the following deadlines:

On-campus program: Priority Deadline, February 1

Online program: Priority Deadline, February 1; Final Deadline, May 1

Submit the above materials to:

BSW Admissions
Kent School of Social Work
Louisville, KY 40292
Email: bswkent@louisville.edu

Transfer Students

Transfer students must:

- Complete the application process for admissions to the University of Louisville. Applications for transfer student can be found at admissions.louisville.edu. This is a page of quick links for transfer students and also contains the link to the application. Make certain that you indicate Social Work as your major on this form.

If you have questions about this form, you may contact the University of Louisville Office of Admissions:

Office of Admissions
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292
phone: (502) 852-6531 or (800) 334-8635 ext. 8526531
email: admitme@louisville.edu.

- Submit a non-refundable application processing fee. Attach a personal check, money order or cashier's check (U.S. dollars) payable to the University of Louisville to your completed application if you submit the hard copy application. If you apply on-line at the above website, you must also pay your application fee on-line with a credit card or check. Note: Paying your application fee with a check will delay the process for 8 days.
- Provide an official academic transcript from each college/university you have attended, including those at which you were enrolled for academic credit as a non-degree student and/or credits, which you transferred to another college. All transcripts must bear the official seal and signature of the institution attended. You must request these transcripts directly from the Registrar or appropriate officer of each institution. UofL transcripts are provided automatically for applicants who have attended UofL. Applicants must have earned 45 semester hours of college credit and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a four point scale.
- The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for applicants whose native language is not English. A test link to the TOEFL is available at louisville.edu/student/services/testing/index.html.
- International students may be required to have their transcripts evaluated by a credential evaluation service in the U.S. Two possible

services include World Education Services, Inc., at wes.org (<http://www.wes.org>) and Educational Credential Evaluators at ece.org (<https://www.ece.org>). Students may be required to participate in a brief telephone interview as part of the admission process. When completing the I-20, students should note that they will be placed in a practicum as part of their education. Admitted students should visit the International Center when they arrive on campus to obtain the proper immigration documentation necessary to begin the practicum.

Transfer students need to send all of the aforementioned documentation to:

Office of Admissions
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

Transfer students must also submit additional documents to complete their application process. The additional documents include:

- Two letters of reference supporting the student's application and providing information about character, maturity, stability, achievements, interactional skills and special qualities. These letters may come from professors, high school teachers, counselors, supervisors, professional social workers, and other professionals, but not from relatives of the student.
- Current resume that includes the following information: any places of employment and volunteer experiences that you have had in the last 2 years including place of employment or volunteer activity, dates of employment or volunteer experience, job title or position held, description of job responsibilities.
- A 700-1000 word personal statement (double-spaced, 12-point font) that addresses the following topics: a) your commitment to the goals and purposes of social work; b) the intellectual and personal qualifications that will enable you to practice social work successfully.

Note: If there are gaps or deficiencies in your academic record, please address these in an addendum to your statement.

Each applicant is required to add the following statement to the beginning of their personal statement accompanied by the applicant's signature and date of the signature:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited at the University of Louisville. In keeping with this policy, I certify the material contained in this application is solely my work and that I have neither cheated nor plagiarized in its creation.

If you have been convicted of a felony, please include a description of the circumstances and outcomes of the conviction. Please note that prior convictions for criminal offenses may preclude one's ability to be licensed as a social worker in many states. In addition, many practicum sites require background checks and periodic drug screenings. Any negative findings that affect agency placement may also prevent successful completion of the requirements for the degree. Applicants and students should consider these barriers in their educational planning.

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