

Q. What is the application deadline?

A. Applications for the online MSW program must be received no later than April 15th. The priority deadline is February 1st. Students who apply by the February 1st deadline will be eligible for School of Social Work scholarships. The program is a fall only start.

Q. What are the admissions qualifications?

A. To be considered for admission students must have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher are not required to take the GRE. Applicants with a GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 must take the GRE and will be considered for admission depending on availability. Applicants will need to complete an online application and submit the following documents: official transcripts, resume, three letters of recommendation, and their admissions essay. Full guidelines are found here: <https://socialwork.wvu.edu/students/msw/admissions-requirements>

Q. Is there an application processing fee?

A. Yes, applicants will need to pay a \$60.00 application fee to apply to WVU before the online application can be submitted.

Q. How long does it take to complete the program?

A. The online MSW is offered on a part-time basis only. Advanced standing students finish in the summer after two years of class and field work. Regular standing students finish in the summer after their third year of classes and field work.

Q. What is the difference between advanced standing and regular standing?

A. An Advanced Standing student is someone who already has a bachelors in social work from an accredited university within the last 8 years. They skip the foundational courses and their generalist placement and go straight into higher level courses and their advanced field experience. Regular Standing students hold a bachelor's degree in something other than a social work degree. They first take foundational social work courses and complete their generalist field placement and in their second and third year move on to higher level courses and the advanced field placement.

Q. What is the curriculum like?

A. The advanced integrated practice curriculum provides an integrative approach to social work where students are prepared for both direct practice and administrative roles. This curriculum prepares WVU MSW graduates to be well-rounded advanced practitioners who can respond to the complex realities of practice in a variety of roles and settings. Students also need to complete field placement hours. Regular standing students complete 300 general field placement hours and 600 advanced placement hours. Advanced standing students complete 600 advanced placement hours. Students will be matched and supported by our Field Placement Director according to their interests and area of residence. For more details, look through our Student Handbook found here: <https://socialwork.wvu.edu/students/msw>

Q. Is there a residency requirement?

A. No. All courses are offered online and are asynchronous.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. Tuition is paid by the credit hour. All students are eligible for in-state tuition no matter their state of residency. Most students take 2-3 courses (6 to 9 credit hours) a semester. For the 2018-2019 school year, 1 credit hour costs \$597 (fees included). Detailed tuition costs can be found here: <https://tuition.wvu.edu/graduate>.

Q. Is there any financial assistance available?

A. Yes. There are a number of School of Social Work scholarships available to online students. They can be found here: <https://socialwork.wvu.edu/students/scholarships>. Students must apply by February 1st to be eligible for scholarships. Online students are also eligible to participate in the Child Welfare Training program provided they are prepared to do their field placements in West Virginia and work within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources following graduation. Online students also can apply for merit based tuition waivers. They will need to have a 4.0 GPA to apply for merit based waivers and the earliest one can apply is during their second semester (spring) for the fall semester of their second year in the program.

Finally, students can apply for Financial Aid by completing their FAFSA application by the March 1st deadline. WVUs Federal Code is 003827. For more details on completing the FAFSA visit here: <https://financialaid.wvu.edu/applying-for-aid/afsa>