

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
McGILL UNIVERSITY**

ARE YOU READY TO APPLY TO OUR BSW PROGRAM?

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IMPORTANT LINKS, DOCUMENTS & FIRM DEADLINES

- BSW Program website: www.mcgill.ca/socialwork/prospective/bsw
- BSW Admissions: Who can apply?: www.mcgill.ca/undergraduate-admissions/apply
- Deadlines: www.mcgill.ca/undergraduate-admissions/apply/requirements
- BSW Application: <https://future.mcgill.ca/apply>
 - Please note that BSW Application and all supporting document **deadlines are firm**
 - *Late applications are not accepted*
 - *Supporting documents submitted after the deadline are not accepted*
 - *Letters of reference submitted after the deadline are not accepted*
- *The Social Work Written Submission form is the only accepted form; no additional CV will be reviewed.*

I WANT TO APPLY TO THE BSW PROGRAM!

The instructions vary depending on the category of your application – be careful to select the appropriate category

TIP 1: PLAN TO SUBMIT YOUR “SOCIAL WORK WRITTEN SUBMISSION” TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE DUE DATE

TIP 2: ASK YOUR REFEREES TO SUBMIT THEIR LETTERS OF REFERENCE TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE DUE DATE

- **CEGEP** Diploma (DEC) applicant (including applicants with a completed Social Services DEC): complete the online McGill University Admissions Application
- **Other University Transfer & McGill Graduate** applicants (you have completed or will complete at least one year of studies at another university, or you possess a completed degree from another university or from McGill): complete the online McGill University Admissions Application
- **Mature** applicant (you have not completed college or university level studies within the last five years that would constitute a basis for admission): complete the online McGill University Admissions Application
- **French Baccalaureate and International Baccalaureate** applicant: complete the online McGill University Admissions Application
- **Inter/Intra-Faculty Transfer** applicant (you are a McGill student who has not graduated and you wish to transfer from another undergraduate faculty or from another program within the Faculty of Arts): apply on Minerva under the Student Menu.
 - NB: If applying from your freshman year (U0), you must have completed 24 credits by the end of current winter term; the remaining 6 credits must be completed in first BSW term and these credits will be excluded from the BSW.

WHAT ABOUT TRANSFER CREDITS? WHAT ABOUT MY SOCIAL SERVICES DEC?

TRANSFER CREDITS FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSITY PROGRAM OR DEGREE:

- Assessed by Enrolment Services only after an accepted offer of admission, based on official transcripts, and established equivalency with McGill courses up to a maximum 30 credits; *students transferring into the BSW from a program other than social work are most likely to be eligible for a maximum of 24 credits*
- Credits completed in U0/freshman year are not eligible for transfer
- Courses taken by mature students are not eligible for transfer credits (including the 2 prerequisite courses for admission)

TRANSFER CREDITS FROM A COMPLETED OR INCOMPLETE MCGILL DEGREE

- Assessed by the School of Social Work after an accepted offer of admission, based upon review of McGill transcript, up to a maximum 30 credits; *students transferring into the BSW from a program other than social work are most likely to be eligible for a maximum of 24 credits*
- Credits completed in U0/freshman year are not eligible for transfer

ADVANCED STANDING CREDITS FROM A COMPLETED SOCIAL SERVICES DEC WITHIN LAST 5 YEARS:

- Assessed by the School of Social Work only after an offer of admission, based on official transcripts, and established overlap with a minimum grade of 70% , students will receive credit for:
 - SWRK 220 History & Philosophy of Social Work (3 credits)
 - SWRK 221 Public Social Services in Canada (3 credits)
 - SWRK 222 Introduction to Practicum (3 credits)
 - SWRK 224 Human Development Across the Lifespan (3 credits)
 - SWRK 321 Intro to Practice with Groups (3 credits)
 - SWRK 423 Research Methods (3 credits) **TBD**
 - SWRK 322 Field Practice 1 (3 credits) *
 - SWRK 323 Field Practice 2 (3 credits) *
 - SWRK 344 Integrative Seminar (3 credits) *

* See the BSW Website, Advanced Standing, for details on how to request credits for SWRK 322, 323, and 344

CHECK SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

CEGEP, OTHER UNIVERSITY TRANSFER, MCGILL GRADUATES, MATURE, FRENCH/INT'L BACCALAUREATE

These are the supporting documents that must be submitted:

- *Unofficial transcripts—if admitted, official transcripts must be submitted*
 - For CEGEP students, Minimum R-Score Overall is 27.0; Minimum R-Score English or French is 25.0
 - For university transfers, grade of 3.0 minimum
 - For Mature students, grade of B or higher in 2 courses completed by May 1st and within the last 3 years
- *Social Work Written Submission*, saved as a single PDF document which includes: *Optional Equity information, Education, French Proficiency, Paid/Volunteer/Field Placement relevant experience, Personal Statement, and Analysis of a Social Problem*
- *2 letters of reference* from individuals who have direct knowledge of your performance in a helping capacity or your potential in the field of social work, signed on letterhead, submitted electronically by referees

CHECK SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

INTER/INTRA-FACULTY TRANSFER (McGILL)

- The below documents must be emailed to the School of Social Work at: undergraduate.socialwork@mcgill.ca
- **Transcripts for advanced standing, university/college transfer credits and course exemptions:** if you received advanced standing or transfer credits/exemptions for exams or studies at other universities and you fall under any category below, you must arrange to have official transcripts sent to the School of Social Work. To be considered "official", transcripts must be sent to the School directly from your current faculty office or from the host university where you studied. If sent from your faculty office a certified copy is sufficient. **NB:** McGill and CEGEP transcripts are not required.
 - You studied at another university prior to, or during studies in your current faculty;
 - You will be taking courses at another university during the upcoming summer term;
 - You interrupted your studies and during your absence completed courses at another university.
- If your CGPA is less than 3.0, you **must submit a statement of extenuating circumstances & documentation**
- *Social Work Written Submission*, saved as a single PDF document which includes: *Optional Equity information, Education, French Proficiency, Paid/Volunteer/Field Placement relevant experience, Personal Statement, and Analysis of a Social Problem*
- **2 letters of reference** from individuals who have direct knowledge of your performance in a helping capacity or your potential in the field of social work, *signed on letterhead, submitted electronically by referees*

BSW PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

Social Work Written Submission form

Submissions using any format other than the Social Work Written Submission form will be refused

- Name
- McGill Student Number
- Optional - Equity Group Information
- Education – be specific with details
- Self-rated French proficiency
- **Experience:**
 - Identify the experiences that *you* consider to be ‘related’ and ‘relevant’ to social work.
 - In chronological order, beginning with the most recent entry, provide an accurate and thorough description of social work-related paid (P), volunteer (V), or field placement (FP) experience
 - What was your position? What were your 3 main responsibilities?
 - For each entry, identify beginning and ending dates with month and year and accurately report the total number of hours for each entry in the work experience section

Social Work Written Submission form: **PAID, VOLUNTEER, AND/OR FIELD PLACEMENT EXPERIENCE**

Social work micro practice experience:

- Have you worked one-on-one with individuals, families, or groups?
- This might include counseling, crisis lines, facilitating support groups, conducting outreach, advocacy for helping to meet basic needs or attain benefits, services, education, etc.

Social work mezzo practice experience:

- Have you worked with small to medium sized groups or organizations such as schools, community service organizations, or businesses?
- This may include community-organizing work, organizational management, program evaluation, etc.

Social work macro practice experience:

- Have you been involved with communities and government entities?
- This may include advocacy work, assuming leadership roles in non-profit or government agencies, building community capacity, developing policies, etc.

PRESENT YOUR *EXPERIENCES* WITH HONESTY AND INTEGRITY AND CONNECT THEM TO “SOCIAL WORK” VALUES AND SKILLS!

- It is up to you to assess your own experiences and consider the ways in which your interactions within the settings in which you have worked or volunteered contribute to the welfare of others.
- Purely administrative tasks, e.g. secretarial work, accounting, bookkeeping, reception, etc. do not qualify unless they put you in direct contact with vulnerable populations wherein you were directly supporting or advocating
- **Choose your references wisely!**

For helpful resources to assist you in assessing whether your own experience meets the criteria, see:

- <https://www.casw-acts.ca>
- <http://another-mirror.Blogspot.Com/2012/10/micro-mezzo-and-macro-social-work.Html>
- <https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/what-social-work/what-social-workers-do>

CHOOSE YOUR REFERENCES WISELY

- **Two letters of reference** from individuals who have *direct knowledge* of your performance in a *helping capacity* or your *potential in the field of social work*.
- These letters must be **signed, on letterhead, and submitted electronically by referees**. They should address:
 - How long and in what capacity has the referee known you?
 - What were your responsibilities or roles as delineated by the referee?
 - What are your strengths and limitations in a professional program in social work from the referee's perspective?

FOR *CEGEP, UNIVERSITY TRANSFER, MCGILL GRADUATES, MATURE, FRENCH/INT'L BACCALAUREATE*, letters of reference are sent by referees and directly attached to student's files.

FOR *INTER/INTRA-FACULTY TRANSFERS (MCGILL)*, letters of reference are submitted to undergraduate.socialwork@mcgill.ca with the email subject being **BSW Reference letter, student first & last name, referee last name**

BSW PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

PERSONAL STATEMENT (600 WORDS)

- Name
- McGill Student Number
- Word Count – you need to report it
- Why are you interested in becoming a social worker?
- How have aspects of your own identity and/or your past experiences (personal, academic, volunteer and/or work) contributed to this interest?
- What have you learned from your past experiences (knowledge, understanding and/or skills) that make you a good candidate for social work?
- If you have worked in other fields, please discuss the reasons for this change.

BSW PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

ANALYSIS OF A SOCIAL PROBLEM (600 WORDS)

- Name
- McGill Student Number
- Word Count – you need to report it
- Identify a relevant social issue.
- Discuss what you consider to be some of the contributing factors to this social issue and why you think this social issue is relevant to the profession of social work.
- Reflect on the attributes, skills, and values you possess that contribute to your abilities to address this social issue.
- Reflect on the attributes, skills, and values you would like to develop to strengthen your ability to address this social issue.

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Extenuating circumstances: In the rare event that extenuating circumstances have had a negative impact on your academic performance, you have an opportunity to report on these when you submit your application.

For *CEGEP, UNIVERSITY TRANSFER, MCGILL GRADUATES, MATURE, FRENCH/INT'L BACCALAUREATE applicants*, please follow the instructions at <https://www.mcgill.ca/undergraduate-admissions/apply/submit-documents#extenuating-circums>

For *INTER/INTRA-FACULTY TRANSFER (McGill)* applicants, please familiarize yourself with the requirements found at <https://www.mcgill.ca/undergraduate-admissions/apply/submit-documents#extenuating-circums>. However, you will need to send your extenuating circumstances information to undergraduate.socialwork@mcgill.ca

BSW CURRICULUM (2025/26, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- Consists of 30 courses = 90 credits
 - 21 courses are “required SWRK” courses = 63 credits
 - 3 courses are “complementary SWRK” courses = 9 credits (SWRK)
 - 4 courses are “Non-SWRK complementary” = 12 credits (Not “SWRK”)
 - These complementary courses are any courses except SWRK; you choose
 - These complementary courses require a grade of C or better and cannot be taken online
 - 2 courses are “electives” = 6 credits (Not “SWRK”)
 - Elective courses are any courses except SWRK; you choose
 - Elective courses require a grade of D or better and can be taken online
 - ONLY elective courses can be graded S/U in your BSW

COURSES TAKEN IN U1 (NOT ADVANCED STANDING)

10 courses (30 credits)

- SWRK 220 History & Philosophy of Social Work (fall) 3
 - SWRK 221 Public Social Services in Canada (fall) 3
 - SWRK 224 Human Dev Across the Lifespan (fall) *** 3
 - SWRK 219 Anti-oppression Social Work Practice (winter) 3
 - SWRK 222 Introduction to Practicum (winter) 3
 - Plus 6 credits of Non-SWRK complementary courses and/or electives in fall term
 - Plus 9 credits of Non-SWRK complementary courses and/or electives in winter term
- *** Are you eligible for an exemption from SWRK 224? Have you completed an equivalent CEGEP or University level course on Human Development Across the Lifespan?

COURSES TAKEN IN U2 (NOT ADVANCED STANDING)

10 courses (30 credits)

- SWRK 319 Critical Thought & Ethics in Social Work (fall) 3
- SWRK 320 Practice with Individuals & Families 1 (fall) 3
- SWRK 321 Introduction to Practice with Groups (fall) 3
- SWRK 322 Field Practice 1 (fall) 3
- SWRK 353 Intro to Mental Health (fall) 3
- SWRK 323 Field Practice 2 (winter) 3
- SWRK 326 Practice with Individuals & Families 2 (winter) 3
- SWRK 327 Approaches to Community Practice (winter) 3
- SWRK 344 Integrative Seminar 1 (winter) 3
- Plus 3 credits of Non-SWRK complementary courses and/or electives in Winter term

COURSES TAKEN IN U3 (NOT ADVANCED STANDING)

10 courses (30 credits)

- SWRK 420 Advanced Field Practice 1 (fall) 3
 - SWRK 423 Social Work Research (fall) *** 3
 - SWRK 428 Social Policy & Administration (fall) 3
 - SWRK 421 Advanced Field Practice 2 (winter) 3
 - SWRK 422 Integrative Seminar 2 (winter) 3
 - SWRK 445 First Peoples & Social Work (winter) 3
 - SWRK 527 Advanced Social Work Practice in Quebec (winter) 3
 - Plus 6 credits of SWRK complementary courses in fall term
 - Plus 3 credits of SWRK complementary course in winter term
- *** Are you eligible for an exemption from SWRK 423? Have you completed an equivalent CEGEP or University level research methods course?

SOCIAL WORK (SWRK) COMPLEMENTARY COURSES

U2

- SWRK 342 Social Work, Gender and Sexual Diversity
- SWRK 354 Social Work In The Health Field

U3

- SWRK 400 Policy & Practice For Refugees
- SWRK 434 Practice With Involuntary Clients
- SWRK 463 Social Work Practice With Older Adults
- SWRK 493 Seminar On Child Protection
- SWRK 510 Critical Disabilities Studies
- SWRK 532 International Social Work
- SWRK 535 Addictions
- IDFC 500 Indigenous Field Studies (can also be considered a non- SWRK Complementary course)