

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Permits the student to complete requirements for the MSW while remaining employed full time
- Completed in approximately 3 years, as opposed to four years in part-time study; advanced standing students complete study in about 2 years
- Rhythm of classes and ability to concentrate on one subject matter at a time is conducive to managing academics and professional life
- Course schedule and active learning format make classroom learning more easily available for immediate on the job application
- Taking classes with a cohort of students similarly employed serves as a support system while in school and develops a network of professional relationships

BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYING AGENCIES

- Contributes to staff development and retention
- Employees enhance their knowledge base and practice skills
- Benefit from increased professionalization and continuity of skilled human service staff

RUTGERS
School of Social Work

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

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RUTGERS
School of Social Work

Intensive Weekend MSW Program

FOR HUMAN SERVICES EMPLOYEES



Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

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Intensive Weekend MSW Program for Human Services Employees

GENERAL INFORMATION

This program is designed to enable students in the helping professions to pursue their MSW while continuing to work full time. Students employed in behavioral health, child welfare, or other human services can expect to complete their MSW education in 3 years or less. If they have a BSW, they can complete an MSW in less than 2 years.

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Classes are held at Rutgers off-campus locations throughout New Jersey.



CURRICULUM

- The School of Social Work's Clinical Concentration is offered and prescribed electives in the program tend to be advanced electives in the 2nd and 3rd year, focused on the professional needs of students.
- Courses in supervision and management practice and planning are part of curricular offerings, intended to provide students with tools to advance their careers and prepare for leadership in the field..
- All courses are commensurate with the SSW MSW curriculum, assignments, readings, learning objectives, and expected competencies – just delivered in a hybrid and concentrated format.

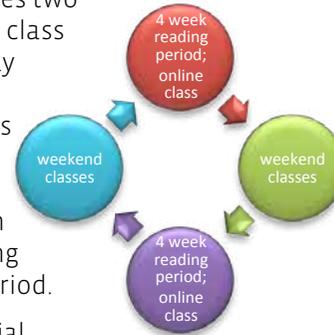
COURSE STRUCTURE

Designed for the employed student, the program is rigorous but manageable.

- Students attend class one weekend each month, supported by online activities in the 4 week interim periods.



- Each course comprises two weekends of full-day class meetings on Saturday and Sunday and two half-day synchronous online classes. These classes are usually scheduled on one Saturday morning in each four week period.



- Courses are sequential, permitting students to focus on one subject matter at a time.
- The program is year round, with no breaks, though students are generally able to work in personal time and vacations in the 4-week periods between classes – it just requires some planning.

WRITING FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

Proficiency in writing is increasingly important in the social work profession. Intensive Weekend students take a series of workshops prior to the start of academic courses that include: 1) individualized writing assessment 2) introduction to APA and use of scholarly sources in academic writing and 3) strategies to plan and write research papers. The course helps students identify their writing style and strengths as writers, as well as areas that need their ongoing attention.

FIELD EDUCATION

Students complete 1,125 hours of field education, 885 hours if admitted with advanced standing. Field is year round and co-requisite with course work and practice classes. Students complete 8-10 hours a week in field the first year and can devote up to 14 hours in years 2 and 3, usually consecrating 1 full day or 2 half days to field. Field requirements are generally fulfilled at the student's place of employment, in a capacity or department that differs from their customary

work assignment. Field Instruction must be provided by an MSW who is not the student's work supervisor. If appropriate field opportunities are not possible at the place of employment, the program will assist the student in locating a placement. Flexibility and availability during at least some day time hours is essential. A single placement is usual, providing that it incorporates progressively challenging opportunities for growth.

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Minimum admission requirements are the same as general MSW admission, but include 1 year work experience in the human services or related field and current full time employment in the field. Application to the Intensive Weekend program is a two-tiered process comprising general admission followed by the submission of a field plan and an interview.

Offers of admission are contingent upon the confirmation of a field placement. Applicants for admission are strongly urged to consult with their employer

Additional information about application and admission requirements can be found at socialwork.rutgers.edu



about their interest in applying to the Intensive Weekend program. They should begin to explore opportunities for a field placement at the agency or schedule flexibility to meet field requirements outside the agency. Employer support is essential for success in the program.