



AURORA UNIVERSITY

Dear Prospective Student,

I am pleased to know of your interest in applying for the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program in the School of Social Work at Aurora University. Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, our BSW program enables graduates to sit for the state social work licensing exam and to use the title “social worker”.

Attached you will find application forms and admissions instructions for the School of Social Work. Reading these materials will help guide you through the application and admissions process. We have designed our admissions process to give you as much information as possible about our BSW program. If at any point you have additional questions about the admissions process or the BSW program itself, feel free to contact me 630.844.5421 or by e-mail at [bbarnwel@aurora.edu](mailto:bbarnwel@aurora.edu).

Thank you for your interest in Aurora University’s School of Social Work. We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

*Brenda Barnwell*

Brenda Barnwell, LCSW, CADC  
BSW Program Director, School of Social Work

# Aurora University School of Social Work

## Admissions Instructions for Transfer Students

**Read carefully the steps outlined here which will facilitate your timely admission to the School of Social Work.**

1. Complete the BSW Application forms and submit these forms to the School of Social Work. Please be thoughtful with your responses on these application forms since our admissions process is designed to enable us to appropriately counsel you regarding your entrance into the BSW program.

**BSW application materials should be mailed to:**

School of Social Work  
Attn: Brenda J. Barnwell, BSW Director  
347 S. Gladstone Avenue  
Aurora, IL 60506

2. Once you have been accepted into the University and your BSW application materials have been received, you may, 1) receive a letter within ten days informing you of the admission decision; **or** 2) be contacted to arrange for a personal interview with a social work faculty member. During this interview you will be asked to elaborate on your written responses to the questions on the BSW application forms. You will also have an opportunity to have your concerns and questions about the program addressed. A letter regarding the admission decision will be mailed to you within ten days of the interview.
3. After being accepted to the BSW program, you will register for social work course work with Ms. Judie Caribeaux of the Crouse Center in Eckhart Hall. At that time, an academic plan will be developed with you that will ensure your timely graduation. A copy of this plan will be given to you for your records.

# **Aurora University**

## **School of Social Work**

### **Criteria for Admission to the School of Social Work**

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be accepted into the BSW program:

- Have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 point scale;
- Have earned or are planning to have earned approximately 60 semester hours prior to beginning the fall required social work course work;
- Completion of the following social work supportive liberal arts prerequisites or their equivalent

PSC 2110 U.S. Government  
PSY 1100 General Psychology  
SOC 1100: Principles of Sociology

(After an administrative review, students may be admitted to the BSW program and complete one course concurrently with social work courses if necessary);

- Be willing to adhere to the social work Code of Ethics;
- Have a career goal that is consistent with the BSW program's philosophy and curriculum;
- Legally be able to qualify for the state social work license (prior arrest and convictions may disqualify an applicant);

# Aurora University

## School of Social Work

### Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Is the BSW program accredited?**  
*The BSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The program has been accredited by CSWE since 1974, which was the first year undergraduate programs were accredited. We have maintained our accreditation for over 35 years.*
- 2. Why is an accredited program important?**  
*In order to be eligible to be a licensed social worker, a student must graduate from a CSWE accredited school. Many agencies that employ social workers require social workers to be licensed.*
- 3. When should I apply for admission to the School of Social Work?**  
*Applicant interviews begin during the spring semester for those students intending to begin the BSW course work the following fall. Most applicants complete the admissions process during the spring and early summer of their sophomore year.*
- 4. Can I begin the BSW Program course work at any time?**  
*Once admitted to the BSW program, students can begin social work courses in the fall or spring.*
- 3. Can I complete the BSW degree on a part time basis?**  
*Students can complete the BSW program part time over a three or four-year period.*
- 4. Do I need an Associates of Arts (A.A.) or Associates of Science (A.S.) Degree?**  
*Applicants do not need to have earned an A.A. degree or an A.S. degree to gain admission to the BSW program. Students who have not earned either of these degrees must meet the university's general education graduation requirements.*
- 5. How can I find out what courses I should take prior to transferring to Aurora University to ensure completion of my BSW degree requirements within two years?**  
*Students planning on transferring to Aurora University should contact the Admissions Office (630-844-5533) to ensure that the courses they are taking or plan to take at their current academic institution will facilitate the transfer process and prepare them for the BSW course work.*

6. **Can I apply to the BSW program prior to completing my sophomore year or 60 semester hours?**

*Students can apply and will be accepted provisionally into the BSW program if they plan on completing 60 semester hours prior to beginning the required social work course work. Students who will have completed slightly fewer semester hours prior to beginning the social work required course will be accepted provided they are willing to develop a plan to complete these hours during the summer term between their junior and senior years.*

7. **What if my cumulative grade point average is below the required 2.5 on a 4.0 point scale?**

*Students, who have a cumulative grade point average slightly below the required minimum can be accepted into the BSW program conditionally provided the BSW Admissions Committee believes that the student has a good chance of succeeding academically. Such conditionally accepted students must earn a minimum of an "A" or "B" grade in the two required social work courses during their first term in the program to gain full acceptance.*

8. **Can I receive social work credits for life or work experience?**

*The Council on Social Work Education, the social work accrediting body, does not permit life or work experience to be used for either required or elective social work courses.*

9. **Can I transfer social work or human service courses into the university and have them apply to the required social work course work?**

*Only courses taken in an academic institution accredited by the Council on Social Work Education can be used to meet required social work course work. Such non-accredited courses can, of course, be used to meet the 120 semester hour general university degree requirement.*



AURORA UNIVERSITY

### APPLICATION FOR BSW PROGRAM

APPLICATION for: Fall: \_\_\_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_\_\_

Full-time \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time \_\_\_\_\_

CAMPUS: GWC \_\_\_\_\_ Aurora \_\_\_\_\_

Year in college: \_\_1<sup>st</sup>\_\_ \_\_2<sup>nd</sup>\_\_ \_\_3<sup>rd</sup>\_\_ \_\_4<sup>th</sup>\_\_

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

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you transfer from another College or University? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of this institution(s) \_\_\_\_\_

How many credits do you plan to, or have already transferred into GWC? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your Cumulative Grade Point Average? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following required supportive liberal arts courses have you taken?

Introduction to Sociology Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Psychology Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Government or Basic Political Science Course Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

List any other courses you have taken which you feel are supportive of your interest in social work.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



AURORA UNIVERSITY

## MINI AUTOBIOGRAPHY OUTLINE

*When writing your mini autobiography, please write all responses in a narrative, first person style. Be thoughtful while typing complete responses. Keep in mind, this application is a professional document.*

1. How did you become interested in social work, and why are you seeking a career in social work? (Include in your response, any prior experience working or volunteering for a social services agency.)
2. What important events and relationships have positively or negatively influenced your development?
3. What would people who know you (e.g., family, friends, professors, etc.) say are your greatest strengths and weaknesses?
4. What experiences, feelings, and ideas do you have about working with people from different cultures and/or oppressed groups (e.g., people of a different race, ethnicity, ability, religion, socio-economic status, gender, and/or sexual orientation)?
5. Is there any additional information for the admissions committee to consider?

All application materials become a part of your academic file in the School of Social Work. These materials are used only for the admissions considerations and will not be disclosed to any unauthorized individual without your consent.