

SOCIAL WORK

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The University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work addresses complex social problems through education, research and service to create a just and better world. Social work is the profession that promotes or restores the relationships between people and their environment in order to improve the quality of life for individuals, families, communities or organizations.

As a student majoring in social work, you will work to enhance the social functioning of individuals, families, communities and organizations. While taking classes and participating in community service and research, you will learn how to enhance the relationship between people and their environments, develop and implement social policies and advocate on behalf of those who cannot advocate for themselves. We also strive to respond to the tough social issues facing people at home and abroad. Whatever your reason for choosing the Kent School of Social Work, you will become part of a community of learners leading the way in confronting daunting societal challenges.

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SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
IN KENTUCKY

15%

RANKED TOP 15%
IN THE NATION

16%

JOBS FOR
SOCIAL WORKERS ARE
EXPECTED TO GROW 16%
FROM 2016 TO 2026



Beyond the classroom

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Annually, more than 300 students provide more than 135,000 hours of community service to about 6,000 Kentucky residents. The Kent School of Social Work leads the University of Louisville campus in community engagement by serving as the college with the highest number of community partnerships in the state.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The Kent School is one of the fastest growing social work programs in the country for external research. Social workers try to understand why individuals, groups and communities struggle with social problems. The research is collaborative, participatory and grounded in real-world problems. It is the goal to produce research findings that provide tools that work in settings with real people. Some opportunities include the Responsible Use of Motivational Interviewing in Schools, JustFundKY, Kentucky Fund for the Arts and First Step Next.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020, over half of the graduating BSW class received Summa, Magna and Cum Laude honors at commencement. Doctoral students have been funded by the American Cancer Society and the Doris Duke Fellowship and have been recognized at commencement for their leadership and dissertation research with the Houchens Prize, Stevenson Award and Binford Memorial Award from the Graduate School.



DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program at the Kent School of Social Work is a generalist social work degree emphasizing social justice and is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The BSW prepares students for entry-level professional careers in social work practice. It also provides the foundation for graduate study in social work and qualifies graduates to enter the Master of Science in Social Work program with advanced standing.

The BSW program can be completed on campus or 100% online. The curriculum builds on a liberal-arts base and is designed to promote the development of generalist social work knowledge and skills in using critical thinking to analyze, plan and implement effective interventions to address complex social problems and the subsequent impact on individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Students gain experience through service learning and social work practicum.

MORE ABOUT KENT

- » Undergraduate upper-division students have the option to join the Public Child Welfare Certification Program, to help serve children and families in Kentucky.
- » Undergraduate upper-division students can also apply to the Alcohol and Drug Counseling Track in the last two years of the program.
- » Social work majors have the opportunity to travel abroad and participate in service learning through collaboration with UofL's International Service Learning Program.
- » The Kent School Student Association provides an opportunity for social work majors to meet, connect and participate in campus events.
- » The Kent School offers one of only two accredited couple and family therapy programs in the country that is housed within a School of Social Work.
- » Our Social Work Living-Learning Community (LLC) provides students the opportunity to develop a wide range of social, professional and community experiences. The LLC brings together students pursuing a career in social work and focuses on academic engagement, mentor support, peer connections and student involvement.
- » The Bayard Rustin LGBTQ+ and Social Justice Themed Community (TC) is an on-campus housing community for social work students who want to live and study with those interested in LGBTQ+ issues and concerns.

Visit uofl.me/llc to learn more about the LLC and TC.

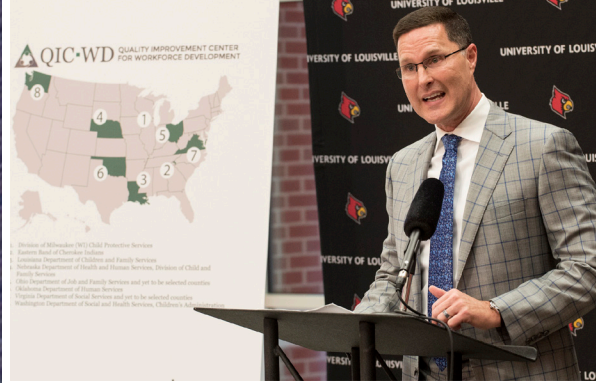


CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A degree in social work has a broad range of applications in a variety of fields such as health care, private practice, schools, universities, government and beyond. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of jobs for social workers is expected to grow faster than average from 2016 to 2026. Employment growth will be driven by increased demand for health care and social services but will vary by specialty.

Social workers can be found working in organizations such as:

- » Public school systems
- » Hospitals and nursing homes
- » Government agencies
- » Charitable organizations
- » Nonprofits
- » Police departments
- » Courts



APPLY

Ready to join the Cardinal Family?
Apply now at: louisville.edu/apply

The application process is easy. No letters of recommendation or essays are required. We'll do everything we can to help make your dream of attending and succeeding at UofL a reality.

Admission Guidelines: uofl.me/ftf-adm-guidelines

Transfer Admission Guidelines:
uofl.me/trf-admissions



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