

Contact us or visit our website
for further information about the
program and how to apply:
louisville.edu/kent

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HOW TO APPLY

Admission to the PhD program is competitive. Applicants should visit our website to download the Application Checklist to ensure that all application requirements and relevant deadlines are met.

The admission process involves:

- (a) A review of application materials.
- (b) Interviews with those applicants with strong applications.

Admission is typically limited to individuals who hold a Master in Social Work degree from programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or international equivalents. We also prefer that applicants have two years of post-master's work experience. However, applicants without a Master's degree in social work, but with a Master's degree in another related discipline are welcome to apply and will be considered on a case by case basis.

Other expected qualifications include at least a 3.0 undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA), a graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher on 4.0 scale, and competitive Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores (www.ets.org/gre.) Information about taking the GRE can be obtained by calling the Prometric Testing Center in Louisville at (502)423-0478. The University of Louisville routinely offers GRE preparation courses.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL WORK

UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE
KENT SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL WORK



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louisville.edu/kent

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EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL WORK

Admissions & Curriculum

The Ph.D. program at the Kent School of Social Work is designed to develop scholars prepared to create knowledge through research that informs interventions and policies and educate future social workers to address critical social problems and pursue social justice. The program prepares graduates for positions in academic and related research settings.

The program focuses on building research, teaching and analytic competencies through courses on social work theories, advanced research design and analysis, teaching, ethics, special topics seminars, guided research practicums and independent studies. Students have the opportunity to collaborate with a diverse group of nationally recognized faculty within the school and university with expertise in the areas of social and child welfare, child & family wellbeing, gerontology, health & mental health, justice & criminality, school social work, substance abuse and international social work.

The components of the program include: (1) coursework, (2) comprehensive examination, (3) dissertation, and (4) mentoring and professional development system. The program requires a total of 50 doctoral level

credit hours plus 6 dissertation credit hours for a total of at least 56 credit hours. The coursework consists of 41 credit hours of core curriculum and 9 credit hours of individualized study.

Graduates of our program have gone on to work as faculty members in schools of social work nationally and internationally as well as in a variety of other research, administrative and policy positions.

The Ph.D. program is offered full-time and part-time.

FELLOWSHIPS & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate research assistantships, teaching assistantships, fellowships, and diversity scholarships and assistantships are available for incoming full-time students. Applicants who are seeking financial assistance should state in their application letter that they would like to be considered for an assistantship or fellowship. Contact our office for more information about fellowship and assistantship opportunities and requirements. Also contact the University of Louisville Financial Aid Office for further information regarding financial resources and aid.

PROGRAM CORE CURRICULUM

Advanced Research Design & Analysis I	(6 credit hours)
Advanced Research Design & Analysis II	(6 credit hours)
Advanced Research Design & Analysis III	(3 credit hours)
Teaching in Social Work	(3 credit hours)
Theory I: Philosophy of Science, Theory & Ethics	(3 credit hours)
Theory II: Analysis of Social Problems, Policy & Practice	(3 credit hours)
Theory III: Conceptual & Theoretical Model Development	(3 credit hours)
Advanced Qualitative Research I	(3 credit hours)
Advanced Qualitative Research II	(3 credit hours)
Measurement & Theoretical Model Testing	(3 credit hours)
Research Practicum	(3 credit hours)
Professional Seminar I	(1 credit hour)
Professional Seminar II	(1 credit hour)

Typical Full-time Curriculum (56 hours)

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