

SOCIAL WORK

From Study to Skills

Rutgers Camden offers a Bachelors of Arts in Social Work (BASW) professional degree program. This major is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and has the same requirements, curriculum, and faculty as the New Brunswick School of Social Work. Students should apply for enrollment during their sophomore year and have the necessary paperwork, pre-requisites and general education requirements completed. This program stresses research-based instructions, individualized work with students, and “hands-on” experience. Students will acquire knowledge, professional ethics, values, and skills to work effectively in social work.

This major prepares students for professional practice or graduate study in social work and related fields. Social work graduates may start their careers as child, family, or school social workers with human services organizations or state and local government. Graduates may also find positions in public health, mental health, or substance abuse within the healthcare industry. Additionally, social work graduates may become planners and policy makers, and develop programs to address societal issues such as child abuse, homelessness, substance abuse, poverty, and violence.

Related Fields: Business, Childhood Studies, Education, Healthcare Administration, Human Resource Management, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration

Skills and Abilities

Analytic Skills- Students will learn to evaluate theories of diversity, sexual orientation, and differences in class or ability, understand the cause and effects of oppression, integrate multi-disciplinary resources, evaluate theories of human development, and understand the social service healthcare system.

Communication Skills- Students will exercise effective oral and written communication skills to develop and apply solutions to complex client needs and social problems; analyze models with individuals, groups, or families; demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and communications; and articulate the interactions between people and their social environments.

Self-Awareness Skills- Student will practice self-reflection and self-growth, understand the implication of personal biases and values, seek continuing education, pursue supervision and consultation, and manage personal values.

Ethical Skills- Students will apply the standards of the national Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics, utilize research to guide practice decisions, and apply strategies of ethical reasoning.

Advocacy- Students will advocate for client access to relevant services, analyze and advocate for policies and services that advance well-being, understand the political and societal factors that can cause privilege or marginalization, and apply interventions to promote social and economic justice.

Internships

Rutgers—Camden Social Work students are offered the opportunity to gain practical learning through a field practicum. This internship is an academic course and offers the opportunity to work with professional social workers.

What Careers Are Available For Social Work Majors

The following are samples of first jobs of Social Work majors:

Adoption Recruitment Specialist, DYFS

Advocate, Prosecutor's Officer

Human Services Specialist, Camden County Board of Social Services

Medical Social Services, SJH Community Services

Mental Health Social Worker, Gloucester City

Probation Officer, Superior Court of NJ

Program Supervisor, Horizon BHC

School Social Worker, Pennsgrove SD

Social Worker, Planned Parenthood

Therapist, Robins Nest

Graduate School Options

A bachelor's degree is typically the minimum requirement for entry level positions, although a master's in social work has become the standard for positions involving clinical services, supervisory or administrative positions. A master's degree allows social workers to become licensed by the state to accept third party payments. Certifications and licensure varies by state. Rutgers Camden offers a Master's of Social Work (MSW). Rutgers-Camden Social Work majors have also earned Master's and Doctorate level degrees in business, education, healthcare administration, law, psychology, and public administration.

Resources

Consider joining a professional organization such as:

Clinical Social Work Association

www.clinicalsocialworkassociation.org

National Association of Black Social Workers

www.nabsw.org

National Association of Social Workers

www.socialwork.org

Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care

www.sswlhc.org

Assist a faculty member with their research

Join the Undergraduate Social Work Organization, Public Administration Student Association, or Student Government Association

Visit RaptorLink for internship opportunities in your field of interest

Connect with professionals in fields that interest you on LinkedIn

Contact the Career Center:
Room 006 Campus Center, Lower Level
326 Penn Street
Camden, NJ 08102
856.225.6046
careercenter@camden.rutgers.edu
<http://cc.camden.rutgers.edu>