



**Virtual Open House 2015
Questions Log**

Q: I thought the advanced standing schedule was 12months?

A: Advanced standing is completed over three semesters which runs from September to August.

Q: If you do the 16th month track are you still able to pursue a minor practice method?

A: Yes! Any student can pursue a minor. Minors require two courses to meet the requirement, and so you can take those courses instead of electives.

Q: Is there a joint MSW - MPH program?

A: Yes, there is! <http://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/section/2.13.03>

Q: Can you share the curriculum schedule for business dual degree students?

A: If you are pursuing the MSW/MBA you'll work with a faculty member in our school to create an individual plan. We will offer advising over the summer, however you may want to reach out to Prof. John Tropman (tropman@umich.edu) for more info. regarding this dual degree.

Q: I am interested in applying for work/study, such as a position working in the admissions office. Is there still an opportunity to apply to work/study in SSW or general U-M for students who have been admitted for fall 2015 enrollment?

A: We hire work-study students to work in the Office of Student services as the need arises, which happens at different times throughout the year. You can also look at the central student employment posting at studentemployment.umich.edu.

Q: When am I able to sign up for classes?

A: You will register for classes in July/August. We will email more information about this process in late April.

Q: If you do the Peace Corps track, do you have any field work in the states

A: Yes, you would have a field placement for the first and second year of your MSW program in the US. If you are advanced standing, you would have a field placement in the states only for your first year.

Q: Because I am going to be doing the advanced standing program, am I not considered for one of the integrated health scholars program? I applied but have not heard back.

A: Special program decisions are still being made. Please expect to receive a decision via email. It will be sent at the earliest date possible.

Q: Can you work part time while completing the 16 month program?

A: Many of our students do work part-time jobs. As a current student, I recommend no more than 15 hours per week.

Q: When are decisions made about the scholars programs, specifically the integrated health scholarship program?

A: The committee is actively reviewing applications now. Whenever possible we try to provide special scholarship decision prior to the enrollment deposit deadline.

Q: if you applied to one of the scholarship study programs, will you be notified if they do not accept you or only notified if you are accepted

A: All special program applicants will receive a decision. Decisions are sent via email at the earliest date possible.

Q: Can the extended term option be decided upon after the first semester of classes? Or do we need to know going into the program how we plan to divide up our required classes?

A: Any decision to change your curriculum schedule should be discussed with the Office of Student Services as well as your academic advisor and Office of Field Instruction (if you have started field in the fall term).

Q: Are classes only offered during the day or can you take evening classes?

A: Classes are often offered in the evenings. Many days per week, there are morning classes (9-12), afternoon classes (2-5) and evening classes (6-9). You can view the course catalog at <http://ssw.umich.edu/courses>.

Q: If admitted to the advanced standing program for fall of 2015, is it too late to apply for the integrated health scholarship program?

A: The Integrated Health Scholarship Program application deadline has passed.

Q: Would it be possible to be an undergrad TA while working towards a 20 month program?

A: The University of Michigan calls graduate student teachers GSIs. These positions can be found at umjobs.org by then clicking on Graduate Student Positions. There are very limited GSI positions within the School of Social Work.

Q: For the Global Social Work certificate, can you do that as a 16-month or 20-month student? I know a Global Field Placement is required for that so when would you do the field placement?

A: For the global social work certificate an international placement is not required. Often students complete a local placement that has a global focus. Because of this you can be either 16 or 20 month. If you want an international placement you must follow the 16-month schedule.

Q: Would one of the dual-degree programs require more than 20 months?

A: Likely yes. Because you would be completing two Masters degree programs, it would take longer than 20 months. You can find out more about dual degree programs at <http://ssw.umich.edu/programs/msw/overview/dual-degree>.

Q: I am in the Social Policy and Evaluation practice method with a concentration in Mental Health with a minor in Interpersonal Practice. Do I still meet the criteria to be considered for the Integrated Health Scholarship?

A: Integrated Health Scholars are required to be 16 month Interpersonal Practice and Mental Health. You would not be able to have a social policy and evaluation method.

Q: Hi, I'm an international student from China, currently living in California. I have a couple of questions: 1)If I need to borrow money to support my study, when should I start to apply for a loan? Any recommended banks? I can have a friend to be my U.S. cosigner. 2)Is it true that it's impossible for an international students to find a job in social work that sponsors work visa for internationals?

A: Borrowing money for school as an international student can be very complicated. I suggest scheduling an appointment with the Office of Student Services to discuss your questions - call 734-936-0961. Some international students have found sponsors for employment in the US - usually in cities serving immigrant populations.

Q: What is the average class size?

A: The average class is around 20 students. I have had classes as small as 6 and as large as 28.

Q: Is it possible to take all your classes on one day of the week and do you field placement the other days? (Advanced Standing)

A: In general you cannot take classes on one day however you can possibly take classes on two days with field on two 8 hours days. Classes are block scheduled.

Q: Are there any research opportunities available to MSWs or is that limited to PhD students?

A: Often time, faculty will hire students to work alongside their research projects. There is also a research methods course you'll take as a part of your foundation coursework.

Q: If during my course of study, I see that a dual degree might be beneficial how early do i need to know this

A: There would need to be an overlap between the two programs. Often, you need to apply within your first semester or second semester in order to meet the admissions deadlines. You want to check on the deadline of the specific program you are considering.

Q: If you are on the 16 month track, how much extra time, if any, will be added to the program is you decide to pursue a dual degree such as MSW/MBA or MSW/JD? Can you complete the dual degree within 16 months?

A: The MSW/JD program is 8 semesters (instead of 4). The MSW/MBA program takes 6 semesters to complete (instead of 4).

Q: Is it possible to go from an MSW to a dual degree once enrolled at the school?

A: It is possible to add a dual degree in your second year if you are not an advanced standing student. You must apply to the other program in your first semester.

Q: Is there any opportunity to do a dual degree with another institution? ie stanford or mit that doesn't have an msw

A: Our dual degree programs are for UM schools only.

Q: is it still to early to speak to someone at the school about curriculum options, for example to find out if previous course work would count towards this degree?

A: We will review your transcript thoroughly this summer, however you can speak with an admissions counselor in the office of student services to get some general info. If you have used the credits toward another degree you cannot transfer them into the program. They may provide you with exemptions from foundation coursework.

Q: Will I be working/taking classes primarily with students who match my practice area and concentration?

A: Your first semester (unless you're Advanced Standing) will be primarily foundation courses, and so anyone could be in those with you. Once you begin to specialize your courses to your concentrations, you'll begin seeing the same people more often, but definitely not always!

Q: if I did not have interpersonal practice on my application for the integrated health, but am adding as a minor, will i no longer be considered?

A: Special program applicants do not need to meet a special program's requirements at the time of application; however, it is recommended to do so. If a student is accepted by a special program, then they are expected to meet the program's requirements (curriculum schedule and/or practice method/area).

Q: Have assistantship positions been filled?

A: The School of Social Work (OSS & Career) GSSA positions have been filled. To find more graduate student positions, visit umjobs.org

Q: is it still to early to speak to someone at the school about curriculum options, for example to find out if previous course work would count towards this degree?

A: Course planning and new student programming information will be sent out in May and then you can set up an appointment to discuss further these concerns with an admissions counselor.

Q: When will scholarships through the School of Social Work become available to apply for Fall 2015 semester?

A: You could apply for grant and scholarship aid at the time you applied to the program. If you haven't yet done so, be sure to complete this form:
<http://ssw.umich.edu/sites/default/files/documents/msw-apply/financial-aid-application-form.pdf>

Q: What if I have been accepted in another program and I need to give my response by April 10th but have yet to hear back from UM's program?

A: Feel free to send us an email letting us know your deadline. Note, however, that we cannot guarantee a decision by a specific date. I also suggest requesting an extension from the other school. Most schools will grant decision deadline extensions.

Q: I have committed to a Interpersonal concentration with a practice area in Mental health. I have also been awarded the Detroit Clinical scholarship award. Could I switch my practice area to health, even though I have received the Clinical scholarship?

A: Yes, Detroit Clinical scholars can have a practice area in health, mental health, children and youth, or community and social systems. You can send an email request to change your concentration to ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: If I already have my Certificate in Child Welfare from my BASW program and from DHS, would that be the same thing as what UofM is offering?

A: It is a certificate specific to our program. You may want to focus in another area in order to broaden your skill set during your MSW program.

Q: When signing up for courses, how do we know what to sign up for?

A: You'll likely register for your first semester at a New Student Summer Session, where there will be current students and advisors to help you through the process. You can also look at which classes are required of your concentration on our website (ssw.umich.edu) We will also hold course planning webinars this summer. Please expect an email in April with information on registration, course planning, and summer sessions.

Q: How does advanced study and the Peace corps course work together? Do we do our year of classes then join the Peace Corps and is this considered our field placement?

A: You complete a year of course work and field work for your first two semesters, complete your 27 months of Peace Corps service, and then finish a final semester of courses once you return.

Q: Speaking of Financial Aid, can you give me a contact person who deals with VA Educational Benefits?

A: You should start with the Office of Financial Aid: 734-763-6600. You may also find this office very useful: <http://vets.umich.edu/>

Q: For a MSW/JD dual degree, can you apply to UM law school in your first semester if you are on 16-month track?

A: Yes you can :)

Q: Can I use my BSW internship as my MSW internship? They are interested in having me back, and have more advanced trainings and skills I can work on, to build on my BSW internship.

A: This should be discussed with the field instruction office. It depends on if they are connected with the school field offerings and if they can accommodate your Method & Area concentrations. It may be best to seek a new experience to broaden your skill and knowledge.

Q: Sorry, I didn't catch it - if we are starting in the fall, do we register for classes in April or July/August?

A: Registration will happen during July/August.

Q: How many students are accepted for the advanced standing program? (how many positions are available?)

A: We do not limit the number of advanced standing students that can be admitted into our program. We generally have between 85-100 incoming advanced standing students each year.

Q: if I have a minor in individual practice how will this affect my placement.

A: You'll need to have a placement that can accommodate 1/4 of your time focusing on Interpersonal Practice work.

Q: When will I receive the materials for the Human Biology course requirement?

A: If you have not met the human biology requirement and are admitted to the MSW program, please expect to receive information in April/May on our human biology exam.

Q: What kinds of sponsorships or grants which International students are eligible to apply?

A: International students are eligible to apply for merit based aid, including our special programs.

Q: What is the average class size for foundation students?

A: Average class size is around 20 students. I have had a class as small as 6 and as large as 28. Foundation courses sit right around 20-25.

Q: Is there a set date of when we'll hear back regarding acceptance if we applied by the March 1 deadline?

A: Unfortunately, there is no set admissions decision timeline other than for those that met our December 1st early application deadline. Applicants that met the December 1st deadline received at least an initial decision by March 1st. We process on a modified rolling basis, so this may provide you with time perspective. Admissions decisions will be sent out electronically to the email address listed on the MSW application at the earliest date possible.

Q: Is there a set date of when we'll hear back regarding acceptance if we applied by the March 1 deadline?

A: It takes approx 6-8 weeks for application processing, review, and notification.

Q: I am an international student. When will I be able to receive the I-20 from the admission office?

A: Please expect to receive an email in April regarding documents needed to process your I-20.

Q: Coming from out of state, when would you suggest moving to my housing in Michigan? Is the September 2nd orientation the first mandatory event for me?

A: You are also required to attend a summer session. We will hold a session on September 1st for those who cannot attend one on the day that they register (in July/August). It's good to come as early as possible so you can be settled before you begin the program (whenever possible).

Q: If I am a community org. and individual practice minor with a twenty month track. can i decide to do one placement in each.

A: Having a minor requires that you complete 171 hours in that minor method. Therefore, the bulk of your hours will be in Community Organization. You will have to find a placement that will be able to give you experience in both areas.

Q: Do we get options for our field placement or is it assigned to us?

A: The Office of Field Instruction helps to assign your field placement. You have input on where you would like to go by completing an application for field placement. We are hosting webinars about field placement on April 14 or 22 for more information on the process.

Q: I applied for a few scholarships, but I did not get approved. Will there be other opportunities to apply for more scholarships?

A: Other Name scholarship opportunities are shared with student when classes begins in September.

Q: If we haven't been accepted yet, can we still apply for the Field Instruction that is due late April and attend the Field Webinars?

A: Only matriculated (admitted with enrollment deposit paid) students that have set up their unickname may submit a Field application. However, we encourage you to attend a Field Webinar.

Q: If I'm admitted to the Global Activities Scholars Program or do a Global Placement, it looks like I would have a local field placement in the first semester as a 16-month student. Is that correct?

A: Yes, as a GASP Scholar, you will have a placement in your first two semesters.

Q: What kind of on campus support do we have to process our field placement

A: The Office of Field Instruction at the School of Social Work will assign you a field liaison based on your interests. Your field liaison will navigate the entire process with you, through connecting you with your future placement, to visiting you each semester, and helping you connect your coursework with your fieldwork.

Q: I have tried numerous times to complete the financial aid application and am unable to do so. Is there another way I can complete this?

A: Please feel free to contact our office at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: Is it easy for international MSW graduate students to secure a job related to social work in US?

A: The process for international students to secure a job after graduation is complicated as you have to have an agency sponsor you. This process may involve more planning within your job search. We have an international center that provides a lot of assistance and information about the process.

Q: How common is a career in therapy, counseling, school psychology, etc. after graduating with an emphasis on interpersonal practice/mental health?

A: It is very common for IP students to end up in direct-practice jobs. Student often come into our program to be therapists and/ or school social workers. For school social work you'll need to select the children and youth practice area if you'd like a placement in a school setting.

Q: How do we go about finding off campus affordable housing?

A: You can use our roommate finder (<https://ssw.umich.edu/my-ssw/student-housing>), utilize Craigslist, or look at UM's Off-Campus Housing website. I would recommend looking in neighboring Ypsilanti if cost is a major concern. If you'd like to be in Ann Arbor, you can check the Old West Side or Kerrytown for places with many graduate students.

Q: Are your placement options very limited if you do not have a car?

A: There are field placements in the Ann Arbor area, but you can be somewhat limited if you do not have a car. Some students with field placements in Detroit will carpool or use the Connector bus.

Q: What is the earliest we can submit a field instruction application online?

A: There will be Field webinars in April available for student who will begin field in the Fall and Field applications will be due in May.

Q: I am a 20-month student. How long and when the summer break would be?

A: Winter 2016 term classes will end the week of April 19 and fall 2016 term classes begin September 6. Information about specific semester dates can be found on our events website (<http://ssw.umich.edu/events>) or on the registrar's site (ro.umich.edu)

Q: if we are in the CBI program does this change who we apply to for the field instruction application?

A: No, you will still be applying through the Office of Field Instruction. There are a subset of placements specifically for the CBI program.

Q: Are there any courses or field placements that specialize in work with the LGBTQIA-community?

A: Yes, we have elective course options (SW707 as well as a minicourse in the SW790) focusing on the LGBT community as well as field placements at organizations that work directly with the LGBT community (Spectrum Center, Affirmations, AIDS Partnership Michigan)

Q: If I want to focus more on policy analysis and program evaluation, is it best for me to keep my practice method as social policy and evaluation with a minor in interpersonal practice or should I flip the two?

A: I would recommend that you keep the SPE focus. You only complete 171 hours for practice in your practice method minor.

Q: For the 16 month track (community organization) when does the field placement begin and when is the application deadline?

A: Most 16 month students will begin their field placement in January. You would submit your field application in October.

Q: are the Field webinars either/or, or do we attend both?

A: Please plan to attend one of the field webinars.

Q: I did my bachelors degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Social and Behavior Science. Is there any reading materials that you would recommend reading prior to beginning the program?

A: There may be some required readings for the All School Conference, however there is no need to do any additional reading before the program. The foundation courses will offer you the preparation needed for advanced courses.

Q: Can we change our practice method concentration after admitted to University of Michigan?

A: Of course! Please feel free to send an email request to ssw.msw.info@umich.edu along with a brief explanation on why you are requesting this change.

Q: Thank you. Just to be clear what is the final deadline for Fin Aid applications? Also, I have may questions, is it possible to come in and talk with someone and who would I contact?

A: If you have not yet submitted your financial aid application, please do so at the earliest date possible. It is usually submitted at the same time as the MSW application. We would be happy to schedule a phone/in-person appointment for you, please contact us at 734/936-0961 or ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: For those in advanced standing, is there a break between the Winter and Spring/Summer terms?

A: There is about a week break between the Winter and Spring/Summer semester.

Q: What percentage of MSW graduates have a job offer upon graduation?

A: It varies every year but about 1/3 have been hired - mostly by their field placement. It takes our students on average 2 months to find their first job. We have many students who wait, on purpose, until after graduation to start their job search

Q: Can you change from a 20 month track to a 16 month track, after being admitted?

A: Yes. Please submit a request to change, and include a reason for your wish to change, to ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: What percentage of graduate students receive grants or scholarships to help offset tuition? Why is the cost of tuition at Michigan nearly 3 times the national average for MSW programs?

A: 80% of our students receive grant and scholarship aid from the School of Social Work. Our tuition is set by the Regents of the University of Michigan each July. We have a significant financial aid budget (\$6 million) to help students off set the cost of tuition. If you have any additional questions about financial aid you can speak with Erin Zimmer or Tim Colenback: 734-936-0961.

Q: I am an advanced student in the DCS program, which semesters will I be going to field placement in?

A: For the DCS program, you will be required to switch to the 16 month schedule. You will be in field for the winter, spring/summer, and final fall terms.

Q: When do the interviews take place for field placement? If I live out of state, will I have to come to Michigan for this interview?

A: Interviews will occur over the summer and field placement agencies often use Skype to interview students who are not in the area.

Q: can we do our field placement in spring and summer

A: Advance Standing students have Field all three terms they're here (Fall, Winter, Sp/Su) 20mo students will do field all four terms (no Sp/Su) with the options of two separate field sites, and 16mo students begin field their second term during (Winter, Sp/Su & Fall) unless they have a Nat'l or International placement as a special scholar.

Q: What do most students do during the summer? Are there options to work in field placements during the summer?

A: The majority of our students are fully enrolled in classes and field if they are 16-month or advanced standing students. 20-month are not enrolled in either classes or field during the spring/summer term.

Q: Is it possible to be awarded more than just one Special Award Scholarship?

A: No, if you applied for and was accepted into more than one special program, you would be asked to choose one.

Q: Is there no summer break at all for the 16-month curriculum?

A: As you can see from the academic calendar, classes and field work should be done by mid August so you do have about a two week break before the fall term begins.

[http://ssw.umich.edu/events/academic-calendar?dr_uterm\[20155\]=20155](http://ssw.umich.edu/events/academic-calendar?dr_uterm[20155]=20155)

Q: When would the competitive interviews take place?

A: Field placement interviews for students beginning field in the fall take place from June-August.

Q: who do you contact to add a minor?

A: You may email our office at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: Thanks. I thought that I had submitted but was confused with the FAFSA. Once I have submitted it, will I automatically be eligible for scholarships or are there separate applications?

A: You also need to submit the School of Social Work Financial Aid Application. However, please note that this application page is usually a part of the MSW online application. Please do not submit duplicate copies.

Q: When should I begin to find a field placement? Around the same time as class sign up?

A: The Office of Field Instruction will send you an email with more details. If you are 12-months or 20 month you'll need to apply by May 15th. Some 16-month students will also need to apply by this date. Be sure to carefully review the information sent to your UM email address (from the field office).

Q: I am considering changing my practice method to IP from Mgt Hum Serv -- would this affect my candidacy for the Geriatric Scholars Program in any way?

A: No. You can be in the Geriatric Scholars program with any practice method. You do have to focus on Aging for your practice area.

Q: when is the earliest time for us to hear back about the decision of the approved scholarships or grants?

A: We are currently working on sending out notifications. Please expect to receive an email from us at the earliest date possible.

Q: I am currently signed up for Community Organization as my concentration and I am debating about changing it to Interpersonal Practice. I've read online but I wanted to know, from a current student, what the differences are between the two? (If it matters my practice area is children and youth in families and society)

A: There are definitely big differences between CO & IP. IP is really focused on working with people on a one-on-one or group basis. The focus is on learning about individuals and the systems that they exist in. However, with CO, the focus is on learning about communities and the individuals who exist inside of them. If you intend to go into clinical social work upon graduation, I would suggest IP. I really enjoy CO though because of my ability to do educational work.

Q: Should you attend the Field Placement Webinars if you haven't yet been accepted?

A: Yes, you can long in to acquire the information. Field instruction does begin differently depending on a student's curriculum track. 12mo, 20mo or Nat'l or Global scholars will begin field in the Fall. 16 mo students will go through a webinar in the Fall since they will begin field in Winter (Jan. 2015)

Q: Are there other benefits to being in the advanced program other than finishing a semester early?

A: Because it is only three terms, there is a cost benefit. You also get to begin field immediately and stay at the same placement throughout your entire time here.

Q: Since we have to send our final transcript in for Advanced Standing, how do we make sure not to get kicked out of that program

A: You want to make sure that your school sends a final transcript with your degree posted. If you are unable to get that before classes begin, you will want a letter from your School's registrar stating that you have completed all requirements for your Bachelor's degree. If you would like for us to verify that you have met the GPA requirement for advanced standing, you can send us an unofficial copy of your transcript.

Q: For the scholarships that were listed on the MSW SSW website, that were not Special Scholarships, how are those distributed? Some of them stated that there was no additional application needed.

A: For the scholarships and grants listed in which no separate application is needed, you would automatically be considered if you submitted the School of Social Work Financial Aid Application. This is usually a part of the MSW online application.

Q: What is the difference between the 12 month program and the 16 month program? Is there an increase in required credits/courses or are the credits just more spread out?

A: Advanced Standing (12 month) is only three semesters rather than four. It is specifically for folks who have already completed a BSW.

Q: Can you create a um email address if you have not paid your enrollment deposit

A: No. Once you pay your enrollment deposit, you will receive information on creating a username. This also creates the UM email account.

Q: Does the Social Work Program utilize APA format?

A: Every professor has different writing requirements due to the type of writing that happens in that class! I have definitely had many professors request APA format.

Q: Are there any faith-based field placements available? Also, are there any courses on the intersection between social work and religion?

A: Yes a few examples are Catholic Social Services and Jewish Family Services. We do have some courses focused on this intersection, one example is "Religion and Spirituality in Social Work." You will also be learning how to complete bio/psycho/social assessments. Spirituality will be included in this learning.

Q: If my scholarship award was much lower than other universities are offering me, are there opportunities to request a re-evaluation? Or do scholarship awards rarely increase?

A: Feel free to email us detailed information at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: what is your suggestion for parking/driving for students who live off campus in Ann Arbor?

A: Many students will utilize the commuter lots on campus where you can park for free and the ride the bus for free to campus as well. You can learn more at <http://www.theride.org/> There is also the Forest Parking Structure near the School of Social Work, but parking on/near campus is competitive and expensive. Most students will utilize public transportation or bicycle.

Q: When do you need to decide on a minor or if you would like to do a certification?

A: You can add a minor or certificate while you're in the program, but you'll want to do this before setting up your field placement as they have field requirements.

Q: Do you have a writing center that can help current students with papers, assignments, etc.?

A: Yes! There is a professional staff member out of the Career Center that focuses on writing, which includes papers and assignments. There is also the university-wide Sweetland Writing Center which peer-reviews papers.

Q: what is the average admitted class size?

A: The incoming class is usually around 380 students.

Q: What is the best place to park when visiting the Social Work building?

A: There is a parking structure two blocks away, on Forest Ave., that we provide the link to in our visit confirmation emails after you've requested a visit on our website (<http://ssw.umich.edu/about/visit/schedule>)! You can also sometimes find street parking near the School.

Q: Would you recommend applying for graduate assistantships or do you think that a graduate assistantship would be taking on too much with the curriculum and field placement?

A: They do require a significant amount of time, but students often pursue them because of the substantial compensation that they provide (tuition waiver, health insurance, living stipend).

Q: Do you have field placements for forensic social work?

A: yes

Q: Although I have my BSW and I have been accepted to the 12 month program, is it possible to go for an extra semester if I cannot get all of my credits in on time?

A: Yes, it is possible to add a fourth term option to your plan. Please feel free to contact in the Office of Student Services (734-936-0961) if you would like to discuss this option.

Q: I was accepted into the Advanced Standing program for IP/MH. Will I be able to earn a Global Social Work certificate as well?

A: There are specific required including 9 credits of additional courses and possible language proficiency. Please refer to the Global Certificate information here <http://ssw.umich.edu/programs/msw/specialization-and-certification-programs/global-social-work> and discuss further with the Office of Global Activities Office Phone: (734) 936-1964 Email: ssw.oga@umich.edu.

Q: when will final scholarship decisions be communicated?

A: Financial aid decisions will be emailed at the earliest date possible.

Q: Who do you notify about picking a minor and/or certificate program?

A: You can send an email to ssw.msw.info@umich.edu. You may want to discuss with an admissions counselor how this can impact your academic plan.

Q: When do would field placement interviews begin for 16-month students starting fieldwork in January?

A: You will apply for field in October and interview in November and December for your placement. Read the info. sent by the field office because some 16-month sites require students to begin in the fall.

Q: Is there a deadline for the Munger Graduate Residences application

A: You can find out more here - <http://mungerresidences.org/#apply>

Q: Are there opportunities available for field placement in the VA Hospital?

A: Yes, we have VA field placements.

Q: Is there a cohort for the incoming fall 2015 student?

A: We do not place students in cohorts.

Q: Who do I contact to find out about the Detroit Clinical Scholars Program?

A: Feel free to contact our office at 734/936-0961 or ssw.msw.info@umich.edu.

Q: I am a international student, and I am wondering is there any program which can help to improve my english proficiency? How is the Summer EAP program?

A: The UM English Language Institute offers various opportunities in which you may improve your English proficiency. If are not required to take the Summer EAP, but are interested in doing so, please email us at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu. For more information on the Summer EAP program visit <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/eli/summerprograms/englishforacademicpurposes>

Q: Are assistantship positions only offered to new incoming students or can you apply for assistantships once you've completed a year?

A: The GSSA positions for the School of Social Work are only for incoming students. You can apply for graduate assistantships in other departments, including GSI positions any semester of your program. http://umjobs.org/graduate_student/

Q: During my internship for undergrad, I was able to work with the hospital in regards to ambulatory care and since I speak Spanish I was able to help interpret for many of my clients. Will I be able to do another internship like this and are there classes or programs available at this school to become a certified Spanish medical interpreter?

A: We do not offer an interpreter certification. Many field placements are VERY interested in having interns that can speak languages other than English. Be sure to communicate this interest/skill when you apply for field placement.

Q: Do you have any recommendations for affordable housing near campus? Do most students live in student housing or off campus? Also, is public transportation in Ann Arbor sufficient to get to most field placements, or do we need a personal vehicle? Thanks!

A: Most of our students do not live in University housing. However, some do live in Northwood or Munger. There is affordable housing within walking distance if you search for it! I would check the Old West Side or Kerrytown on Craigslist. You can also utilize our roommate finder (<https://ssw.umich.edu/my-ssw/student-housing>) or live in neighboring Ypsilanti. There are field placements in the Ann Arbor area where you will not need a vehicle, however, your options may be limited.

Q: I am just curious; what is the starting date of the school that will be stated in the I-20? (if not sure for this year, then typically..?)

A: The date has not been set; however, it will likely be August 28 for those that are not required to attend the Summer EAP.

Q: How common are field placements in/around/near Ann Arbor? I will be very limited in my ability to get to places like Detroit and East Lansing.

A: There are a fair number of placements in Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti. Be sure to let the Office of Field Instruction know that you need a local placement. Sometimes it is also possible for students to carpool to placements that take several interns.

Q: For the DCS program, will we be in the same placement the whole time or will it be two separate placements?

A: DCS have one field placement beginning in Winter 2015 through Fall 2015 for three terms in the Detroit area.

Q: is there someone i can talk to now to sort out some questions regarding licensure

A: You can speak with Michelle Woods: 734-936-0961.

Q: For the MSW scholarships we are automatically considered for through the filling out of the MSW financial aid, when will we find out if we have been awarded? Is that something that will be in our financial aid award packet?

A: Financial aid decisions will be emailed out at the earliest date possible.

Q: Do we find our own field placements or are we provided with contacts?

A: We have hundreds of field sites that we work with. You will select your top six choices based on your practice method/area in the field database that was described earlier in the webinar.

Q: should I know if I have paid my enrollment deposit?

A: If you are unsure, please feel free to contact our office at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu

Q: My concentration is community organization. Would that track lend itself to working for the VA or in a hospital setting?

A: Hospitals generally only have clinical placements for IP students. There might be a few for macro students. You should chat with your field educator about this!

Q: How close are VA placements to the school?

A: The Ann Arbor VA is here on our medical campus. Not too far from the School of Social Work – the UM buses and the AATA buses will take you there.

Q: With an Interpersonal practice method and Community and Social Systems Area, are their many field placement options?

A: Yes! Often our placements focused on domestic violence fall under this combination (to give an example).

Q: Someone I know told me that there are not many field placements for policy evaluation in or nearby Ann Arbor. Is that true? Are there limited options of choice for students in policy evaluation part?

A: Many students in policy and evaluation take advantage of field options in our Curtis Center at the School of Social Work which focuses on policy and evaluation. Other options are outside the area because we try to create opportunities for students in agencies where this type of work is mostly done - such as within state agencies in Lansing.

Q: If I have been newly admitted for fall 2015, how soon can I become matriculated to open doors to work study opportunities?

A: Admitted students matriculate once the \$300 enrollment deposit is paid.

Q: Are there options for commuting students to stay in Ann Arbor in the event weather prevents them from traveling?

A: Make friends who live in town :) Often, professors are very accommodating to commuter students.

Q: Is there a step-by-step timeline for incoming/potential students to follow?

A: You may want to review the information for newly admitted students.

<http://ssw.umich.edu/admissions/msw/admitted-students/incoming-student-information>

Q: are field placement interviews conducted over the phone for those students not arriving to MI until the end of August?

A: Some placements are open to having phone or skype interviews. Others may want to postpone the interview until the student can be present.

Q: Other than the GSSA and GSI positions, are there any other sources of tuition waiver?

A: These are the only positions that I know of that fully cover tuition and fees. However, there are many other student employment opportunities at studentemployment.umich.edu.

Q: How many MSW students in UM choose to continue their study into PhD course?

A: A small number of students go on to pursue their PhD. This is because most intend to practice at the MSW level. You can certainly take advantage of resources in the school to make yourself a stronger candidate if that is your goal.

Q: are there placements in domestic violence resource centers?

A: There are a few different options for folks who want to do sexual assault prevention, awareness, and response work. The University of Michigan has a campus center called SAPAC that is a field site. Locally, there is also SafeHouse, the Ozone House, and probably many others.

Q: applying to the Masters International, how much does your department connect with the Peace Corps to ensure placement fits career goals and MSW concentration areas?

A: Once a student is accepted to the MSW program with Peace Corp (PC) as option in late Summer specific information is shared re; the PC which is handle by them and they process/ assist students with appropriate fit/ location, etc.

Q: I'm not sure about my major, will I be able to change it later on? If so, when will I no longer ab able to change it? (I'm a 20 month applicant)

A: You will need to have your concentrations decided by the time you apply for field placement (May 15th). You can change while in the program, but it may mean that you need a new field placement or have to take extra courses. You can speak with an admission counselor to try to sort out your career goals. Call 734-936-0961.

Q: Is there information available concerning the number of students admitted from the wait/alternate list in recent years?

A: This varies from year to year and can depend on how much attrition that we have. We have often been able to admit people from the alternate list each year.

Q: What is the earliest date in August (or sooner?) that field placements would want to begin interviewing? I would prefer to interview in person (without them having to push it back), and I have flexibility with my move-in date to Ann Arbor.

A: Interviews occur over the summer all the way into Aug. Options for Skype interviewing is offered to help students who are not on campus yet.

Q: Could you tell me more about recording field hours? I see I need 912 hours. How are they spread out?

A: 20-month students will complete two days a week infield over the course of four semesters, 16-month students will complete two days a week in field over the course of two semesters and four days a week over the summer, and 12-month students will complete two days a week in field over the course of their three semesters. Sometimes, if the field placement requires, students will complete field "out of sequence", but this is mainly for hospital placements and other specialized locations.

Q: How do payment plans work for the school? I have not heard back in regards to scholarships that I have applied for, I know it was mentioned that you guys were working on that, but what if the amount is more than I can pay out of pocket? Do I just apply for more loans and scholarships and how will this affection me from graduating?

A: We will email you detailed information regarding financial aid options.

Q: Is there a combined MS-PhD program?

A: There is a joint MSW-PhD program. You can find out more here : <https://ssw.umich.edu/admissions/phd/overview>

Q: Are there scholarships for children of veterans that are not dependents?

A: Not that I know of, but you can check in with the Veteran's Affairs office at <http://vets.umich.edu/>

Q: I've paid the \$300 deposit. When do I pay the whole tuition?

A: This will be paid late in the summer before classes begin.

Q: I am currently on the alternate list, but have been accepted at another school that needs a response by April 10th. Is there any way to estimate how likely acceptance would be (or any other advice)?

A: Unfortunately, we cannot make such a prediction or estimation. However, please feel free to send us an email at ssw.msw.info@umich.edu with information on your situation and we will pass it on to our review team.

Q: I am a dual degree student. Does this change my courseload significantly? Will I be able to work as a GSI, do field placement and complete my courseload?

A: Dual degree students take a similar courseload as other students in our program. Your schedule may be more complicated because you are taking classes in two schools. We have had dual degree students who have also held GSI positions. The MSW internship and internship for the other program will not happen in the same term.

Q: As an international student who is married, I am a bit worried that my spouse who will follow me to the States might spend too much time alone at home. Are there many MSW/international students who are married? and How satisfied do they seem to be regarding the study-life balance?

A: Northwood 4 & 5 Graduate Housing hosts a lot of activities for spouses and international families. Even if you do not live there, you can likely still participate even if you don't live there. There are also a lot of awesome groups on meetup.com for adults to find friends and activities to take part in.

Q: Are there scholarships for children of veterans?

A: The school does not offer scholarships specific for children of veterans. The Veteran and Military Service office may know about outside resources for children of veterans: <http://vets.umich.edu/>

Q: Scholarship/grants that require additional applications due in September, if awarded will they be applied to the Fall or Winter semester? How long do award notices typically take?

A: The decisions are often made toward the end of the first semester and are often given in that semester (if the student has aid eligibility in that term).

Q: Is there in advice on securing appropriate housing that is not too expensive

A: You can look on [Craigslist](http://craigslist.com) at places in Kerrytown or the Old West Side. You can also use our roommate finder to find someone to live with (<https://ssw.umich.edu/my-ssw/student-housing>). Many of our students also live in Ypsilanti to save money and then commute via public buses to get to campus.

Q: I am considering the business administration dual degree. So who should I contact to get more information on applying? thank you

A: I would encourage you to reach out to Professor John Tropman (tropman@umich.edu). He has worked closely with our MSW/MBA students.

Q: I've already applied for several GSI positions, but I just received new information that significantly improves my application. Am I still able to update my application? (The position closed last week)

A: Each department handles their own hiring process. You'll need to speak with them directly regarding the application process.

Q: How many elective credits are available after completing the required courses for Field, Method, and Area? (I have selected IP in CYF and am considering a minor in SPE, but would also like to take the grantwriting course and a course in integrated health or mental health.)

A: If you are doing a minor, you will have fewer options for electives. We can definitely chat more about what this looks like, though, if you'd like to email me at aschwedt@umich.edu.

Q: I was looking at the Northwood IV/V housing policies. If I am advanced standing, is there an exemption that allows me to stay in a single place the entire time? Their housing policy seems to indicate their contracts end in May.

A: You should call the Northwood IV/V Community Center at 734 764 9998

Q: Might be a silly question, but, how cold is it there? I mean, everyone's warning me about the harsh winter of Michigan

A: It sometimes gets really cold! We have a few days a year that are below zero. There are also many days where windchill makes it really cold. However, I walk a mile to and from campus every day, and have not had a day yet that has been too cold for that! As long as you have appropriate winter clothing and accessories, you'll be fine. The spring, summer, and fall are beautiful! And the snow always makes the air in the winter feel less bitter.

Q: If you are in Advanced Standing, can you still opt to earn the certificate in Global Social Work?

A: Yes you can!