



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
FIELD EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

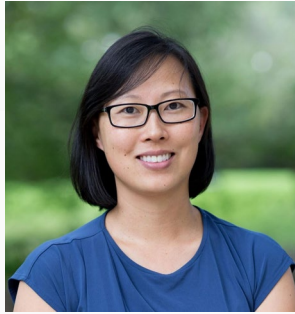
V.A. Hospital Based Placements

For Fall 2025 Field Start

This session will be recorded



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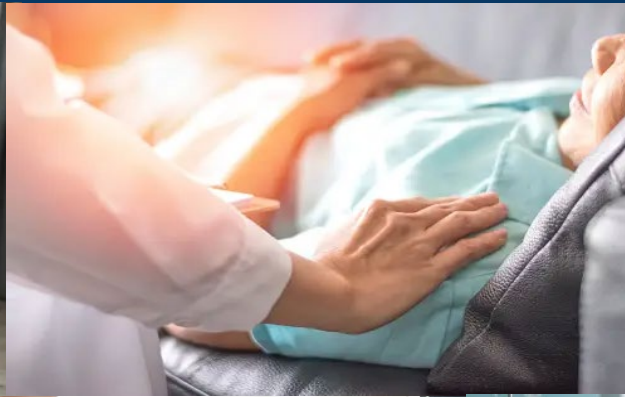


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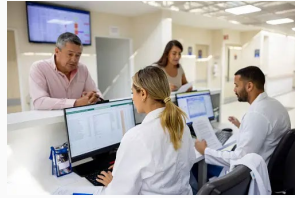
Social Workers in Health Care



Medical Social Work vs Psychiatry



Medical:



Inpatient/Outpatient
Interdisciplinary team work
Clinical Assessment
Psychoeducation
Adjustment to illness counseling
Complex care support and advocacy
Child and vulnerable adult safety and welfare
Grief and Loss
Linkage to community resources
Case management
And much more!

Psychiatry:



Inpatient/Outpatient
Interdisciplinary team work
Clinical Assessment
Psychoeducation
Individual sessions
Group, Family sessions
Child and vulnerable adult safety and welfare
Grief and Loss
Linkage to community resources
Case management
And much more!

Hospital / Health Based Placements

- Corner Health Center
 - Community based health clinic
- CNS Healthcare
 - Various locations
- Henry Ford Health System
 - Various locations
- Hope Clinic
 - Community based health clinic
 - Faith Based organization caring for all people
- Michigan Medicine
 - Psychiatry, Medical, and Macro
 - Various locations
- Trinity Health-formerly St. Joseph Mercy Health System
 - Inpatient, Partial Hospital Program
 - IHA (Integrated Healthcare Association) Outpatient only



Not all hospital training programs are the same...



- Different hospitals have different training formats
- Structured training programs with specific attendance requirements
- Unit rotations
- Interview process
- One or two field instructors
- # of placements offered
- Students from various Schools of Social Work





Interview Process

- Application Due **March 11th at 10a**, this is a firm deadline.
- Please use your UM email on your documents, this is how you will be contacted for an interview.
Check your email regularly!
- Michelle will reach out to offer an interview.
- Michelle will send an offer letter.
- If declined, the field faculty will connect with you to talk about next steps.
- Aside from Michigan Medicine, VA and/or Children's Hospital of Michigan, the interview process will look more like other placements.



Onboarding process

- The V.A. will offer a limited number of stipends. Students should also complete and submit the attached application with the above information.
- Performance Based Interviews will be held during the end of March and beginning of April with final decisions following.
- The onboarding process requires approximately 12 weeks.
- The goal is to have students on site no later than September 2 – 5, 2025 with a student orientation occurring at the end of August.



V.A. Ann Arbor Hospital Based Placements

Locations: Ann Arbor, Flint, Jackson and Toledo

Detroit V.A.- Winter 2025 start only



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Next Steps:

1. Email SSW Field Office to request early access to field application ssw-fieldoffice@umich.edu
2. Once your application is opened, update resume, write goal statement and complete application including selecting V.A. placements
3. Review V.A. Webinar recording
4. Email Dr. Naasko rtmaki@umich.edu



Placement Requirements

Specifics vary based on placement

- Immunizations (T-Dap, MMR, Varicella, Heb B, Hep B, Influenza, Covid-19)
- TB Test
- Tetanus
- Drug Screen
- Background Check

Some health systems conduct these directly. We have developed a process to assist for others.

Students are not able to begin their placement until these steps have been completed and approved.



Health Based Placement Course Requirement

SW 714: SSW Collaboration with Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing:
Interprofessional Service-Learning Course for Health Science Students

****All students in health care based placements are expected to take this course.**

Course is only offered in the Winter semester:

Online Wednesday afternoons





Reminders and Tips: Application Process

- Do not write about your health history.
- Use the writing support through Career Center-Betsy Williams.
- Follow the directions on OFE webpage to write about why health care settings.
- Write about why behavioral health for psychiatry.
 - Remember inpatient placements are not doing traditional therapy!
- Do not name any hospital or placement specifically.
- Do not reach out to any other hospital directly. All placement requests must go through the Office of Field Education.
- If you are interested in opening a specific field site, please reach out to us immediately. This process can take several months before a student can begin the field placement.
- Hospital based placements are not guaranteed. These are often in high demand.



Reminders and Tips: Application Process

- Consider population pediatrics, adult, older adult while understanding skills are transferable
- Willingness to drive will increase potential hospital opportunities
- Be mindful of timelines and deadlines
- Review the Field Webinar (April 2025) and follow the directions
 - If you are not offered a hospital placement the field faculty will work with you to identify other placement options that fit you pathway
- Remember that the goal of the placement process is not to find your first career experience, it is to offer placement in your pathway to learn and practice as a social worker

Thank you!

