



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

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College of Social Work
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MSW Fully Online Advanced Standing Program

A Clinically-Focused Master's Degree

What is the Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

The Advanced Standing MSW program is for students who have earned a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) from a CSWE-accredited program. It allows them to complete their MSW in a shorter timeframe by building on the knowledge and skills they acquired in their BSW program.

How long does it take to complete the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

This cohort program can typically be completed in one year of full-time study (3 semesters), as students have already completed foundational social work courses during their BSW program.

What are the admission requirements for the online Advanced Standing MSW program at Florida Atlantic University?

Applicants must hold a BSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program, meet the minimum GPA requirement (of 3.5), and submit letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and a resume. Relevant work or volunteer experience in social work is also beneficial.

Is the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU accredited?

Yes, the program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), ensuring it meets rigorous academic and professional standards.

What specializations or concentrations are available in the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

The MSW program at Florida Atlantic University prepares all graduates for clinical practice, making them eligible to apply and work toward licensure in Florida. The program also offers certificates in child welfare, healthy aging, substance use and abuse, and social justice.

How is fieldwork integrated into the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

Fieldwork is a critical component of the program. Students must complete 600 advanced fieldwork hours at approved agencies, which can be arranged in their local area with the assistance of FAU's

field placement office. That typically occurs at a rate of 20 hours per week.

What technology requirements exist for participating in the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

Students need a reliable internet connection, a computer with a webcam and microphone, and access to FAU's learning management system. Additional software requirements will be provided upon enrollment.

What support services are available to online Advanced Standing MSW students at FAU?

FAU offers support services such as academic advising, career counseling, technical support, library resources, and writing assistance. Faculty and staff are dedicated to supporting students throughout their academic journey.

Can I transfer credits from another MSW program to FAU?

Unfortunately, we don't transfer in credits for the advanced standing program.

What career opportunities are available after completing the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

Graduates are prepared for roles such as clinical social worker, school social worker, healthcare social worker, community organizer, and policy advocate. The program equips students with the skills needed to work in settings such as hospitals, schools, government agencies, and nonprofits.

How do I apply to the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

Prospective students can apply through FAU's Graduate Admissions portal. The application process includes submitting transcripts, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and a resume.

Are there any residency requirements for the online Advanced Standing MSW program at FAU?

No, the program is 100% online with no on-campus residency requirements, offering flexibility regardless of location.

Why is field education required for the MSW degree?

Field education is essential because it provides an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge to real-world practice. Through field education, students develop practical skills, critical thinking, and ethical decision-making under the supervision of experienced professionals. It is an invaluable part of preparing for a career in social work.

When will I start and end fieldwork, and how many hours are required?

Fieldwork requires 600 hours, typically completed at a pace of 22 to 25 hours per week. This schedule ensures that students meet the program's field education requirements.

Is the Advanced Standing MSW program 100% online?

Yes, the online MSW program offers flexibility for working professionals. It includes a combination of asynchronous coursework, live virtual classes, and fieldwork placements.

What is the difference between the Advanced Standing and Traditional MSW programs?

The Advanced Standing program is for students with a BSW who want to complete their MSW more quickly, focusing on advanced practice. The Traditional program is for students from diverse academic backgrounds who need to build foundational social work knowledge before advancing to specialized practice.

How much does the Advanced Standing MSW program cost?

For the most up-to-date tuition and fees, please visit FAU's website or contact the Office of Student Financial Aid.