THINKING ABOUT A CAREER IN SOCIAL WORK?

Social work is the helping profession.

Relieve People’s Suffering
Fight for Social Justice
Improve Lives and Communities

PROFESSIONAL OUTLOOK

On average, in 2021
social workers earned
$24+ per hour or
$50,390 per year*

89,000 jobs
projected increase
through 2030*

ENDLESS WAYS TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK

Social workers serve in an amazing variety of settings. Choose your passion, here are a few:

3 EDUCATIONAL DEGREE OPTIONS

Choose your level of education based on your career goals. Be sure to enroll in a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Bachelor’s in Social Work (BSW)
Required for entry-level non-clinical positions
Includes supervised fieldwork or internship

Master’s in Social Work (MSW)
Typically required for clinical positions
1-2 years to complete
Includes supervised practicum or internship

Doctorate in Social Work (DSW)
Often required for teaching at university level, high-level programs and systems management positions
Includes advanced training in research, supervision and policy analysis

State Licenses
Required for clinical positions (and non-clinical positions in some states)
Need MSW and hours of supervised clinical work post-graduation
Must pass licensure exam

NASW CAREER RESOURCES

Take advantage of NASW’s support throughout your career.

Continuing Education
Advanced Credentials
Career Center — Job Listings
Specialty Practice Sections
Networking and Events
Discounted Student Memberships

Learn more about the social work profession.
socialworkers.org/Careers


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ENDLESS WAYS TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK

Social workers serve in an amazing variety of settings. Choose your passion, here are a few:

Aging Services
Child Welfare
Behavioral Health
Mental Health

School Social Work
Political Social Work
Clinical Social Work
Health Care Social Work
and so many more
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