thinking about a career in social work?

Social work is the helping profession.

Railway People's Suffering
Fight for Social Justice
Improve Lives and Communities

professional outlook

715,000 social workers in the U.S.

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:

Aging Services
Child Welfare
Behavioral Health
Mental Health

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

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 MSW'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