



## School of Social Work School Social Work Training Program

### What is school social work?

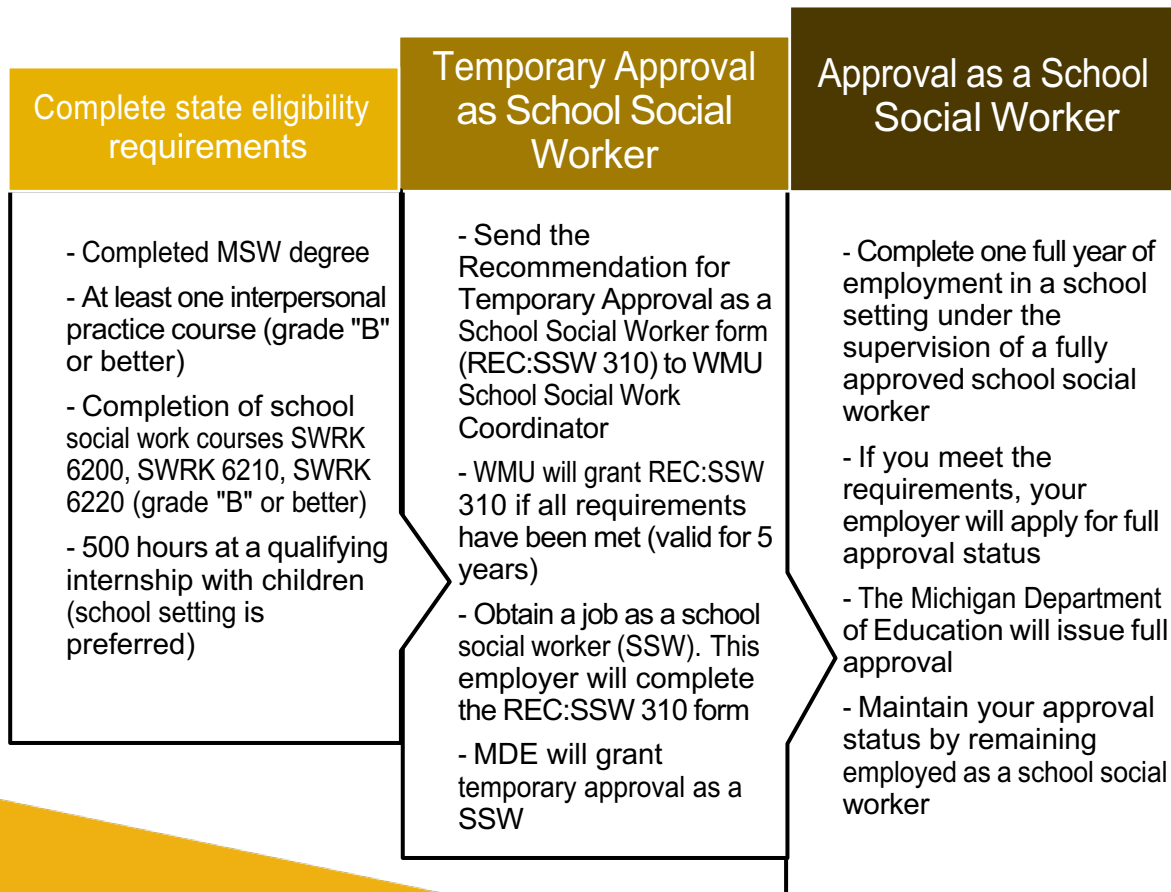
School social work is a specialized field of practice that provides support to students to help them achieve their goals. They assess for barriers to learning and equip the child and their family to advocate for supportive services. With specific training in systems theory, special education law, and school law, they assist schools to understand the connection between human development, education, justice, mental health, and families. (Michigan Association of School Social Workers, 2018)

Western Michigan University School of Social Work is committed to preparing students for direct-service and leadership positions in the field of school social work.

### State approval for school social workers

Western Michigan's MSW program fulfills the educational component of the state requirements for approval as a school social worker. Detailed Michigan Department of Education (MDE) requirements can be found at [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov).

Please note that these are state-specific requirements. If you are seeking to pursue school social work approval in another state, please contact that state's licensing board.



## Course Offerings

Summer I	Summer II	Fall	Spring
Course: SWRK 6200 Type: Hybrid 1 section offered	Course: SWRK 6200 Type: Hybrid 1 section offered	Course: SWRK 6210 Type: Hybrid 1-3 sections	Course: SWRK 6220 Type: Hybrid 1-3 sections offered
<i>Courses should be taken in the order offered. Students should contact their academic adviser or program coordinator if they need to request an exception.</i>			

## Approval Renewal

If you do not secure and maintain employment as a school social worker, refer to the chart below for renewal options.

Years since last school social work employment	Steps to renewal
0-5	No refresher needed. Use original 310 University Recommendation form to apply for employment and temporary approval.
6-9 years	Complete a refresher course. WMU does not currently offer refresher courses. Submit verification of coursework and field placement completion or work experience verification to WMU. WMU will issue a new 310 University Recommendation form.
10+ years	Repeat all coursework and field placement or work experience verification, completing all steps in the approval process.

### WMU Alumni seeking school social work training:

WMU currently offers the school social work training as continuing education courses. However, you must also have completed at least 500 hours in an approved school social work setting or worked with children under the supervision of a licensed social worker within the past five years. When you have successfully completed the courses, you can continue with the steps indicated in the chart to be approved as a school social worker. Please visit our [CE page](#) for more information.

### Questions?

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