Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW)

At Saint Louis University, the School of Social Work empowers students to use their knowledge to touch the lives of others. A Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW) degree provides the skills necessary for beginning generalist practice as a professional social worker and is considered the first professional social work degree. This program is intended to provide an excellent foundation for those who wish to pursue graduate education in social work or in other graduate programs. This program is offered in collaboration with the School for Professional Studies and the School of Social Work at SLU.

School of Social Work

A student will need to apply and be admitted to the School for Professional Studies in accordance with SPS guidelines. They will then take SPS core courses (60 credits), elective courses (24 credits) and may take up to 3 social work courses (9 credits). After core curriculum courses, general elective courses and any social work courses are completed, students with a minimum GPA of 2.0 will be transferred to the School of Social Work as a social work major for degree completion.

The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). CSWE accreditation promotes a high quality, comprehensive education. This social work degree program in St. Louis also ensures your professional licensure in some states and could grant you advanced standing (i.e. waiver of introductory social work degree courses) at numerous Master of Social Work (MSW) programs.
Admission Requirements

- **AGE:** 22 YEARS OR OLDER (EXCEPTIONS MAY BE MADE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS).
- **WORK EXPERIENCE:** AT LEAST 3 YEARS OR THE EQUIVALENT.
- **EDUCATION:** HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR COMPOSITE GED SCORE OF AT LEAST 2250.
- **INTERVIEW:** SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN ADMISSION MEETING WITH AN ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR. THIS CAN BE DONE OVER THE PHONE OR AT ONE OF OUR CAMPUS SITES.
- **GRADE POINT AVERAGE:** A MINIMUM TRANSFER CUMULATIVE GPA OF 2.5 (UNLESS QUALIFIED FOR PROVISIONAL ADMITTANCE).

Admission Procedures

**STEP 1 — COMPLETE APPLICATION**
Complete the application for admission online at busyadults.slu.edu. Applications are accepted and processed on a rolling basis. Students are encouraged to apply for admission at least one month before the term in which they wish to enroll.

**STEP 2 — MEET WITH ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR**
Contact an admissions counselor to discuss the status of your application and your educational and career goals. You may schedule an appointment to speak with an admissions counselor at any of our campus sites or over the phone in certain instances. Appointments are available during business hours or weekday evenings. If possible, bring unofficial copies of all your college transcripts to your admission meeting, or fax them to 314-977-2333.

A writing and/or math assessment test may be necessary during or shortly after the admissions meeting if you are bringing in little or no transfer credits for these areas.

**STEP 3 – OBTAIN TRANSCRIPTS**
Have official transcripts mailed directly from all previously attended colleges to:

_School for Professional Studies_  
Attn: Admissions  
3840 Lindell Blvd  
Saint Louis, MO 63108

If you are an applicant seeking a degree or if you are seeking a certificate and you have not earned a bachelor’s degree, you must obtain official transcripts from all previous college course work. If you have never attended college or have less than 15 hours of transferable college credits, you will need to provide official high school or GED transcripts.

If you are an applicant seeking a certificate and you have a bachelor’s degree, you need only provide an official transcript from your primary higher education institution or evidence of a high school diploma or GED.

Non-degree applicants only need to provide unofficial copies as needed for prerequisites.

ADMISION
Once admitted into the School for Professional Studies, you may begin taking courses in the next available term. If applicable, a letter identifying official acceptance of transfer hours will be forwarded when official transcripts have been received and evaluated. If you have questions about the admission process or the status of your application, please call 314-977-2330 or 800-734-6736.

Dollars and Sense
We strive to make quality higher education accessible to students of all economic means. In addition to offering a reduced tuition rate of half the cost of SLU’s traditional programs and helping you apply for federal, state and institutional funds, SPS offers numerous scholarships and awards specifically for new students.

- SEE THE FULL LIST OF SPS SCHOLARSHIPS AT: WWW.BLLUT.EDUX23497.XML.

SPS also offers budget payment plans and a deferred payment option for students whose employers reimburse tuition costs after completion of a course. More information on tuition and financial aid can be found at: www.slu.edu/x10990.xml. To determine eligibility for financial assistance, submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) early for maximum consideration. FAFSA is available online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Credit for Prior Learning / Transfer Credits
We now provide several options for our adult students to receive credit for prior learning from the following areas:

1. Transfer credits from other accredited institutions
2. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) testing
3. DSST testing (formerly DANTES testing)
4. Industry certifications with an external accreditor (such as an association or agency) in which the certification is received upon successful completion of a test
5. Credit that is approved by the American Council of Education (ACE)

The number of total transfer credit hours (across all forms of prior learning) cannot exceed those permitted by Saint Louis University, SPS, or the specific program to which the credit will be counted.

Stay Connected
Saint Louis University School for Professional Studies provides you with quality and flexibility, and the tools and resources you need to succeed. We invite you to learn more about us through our short videos and Facebook, Twitter, Linked in and YouTube pages by visiting www.slu.edu/x35014.xml.

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