

Spring, 2006

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased that you are considering applying to the Master of Social Work Program at The University of Maine. Enclosed in the application package you will find the information bulletin, which provides details about the social work curriculum, the faculty, major admission procedures and requirements and the dates and times for our MSW Information meetings. Besides our Orono MSW program we are accepting applications for our MSW weekend option program in Belfast for fall 2007.

The full MSW Program consists of 63 credit hours - 44 credits of classroom work and 19 credits of supervised practicum. The full-time option is planned for completion in 4 consecutive full-time semesters. It is also possible to enroll in an extended program and attend on a part-time basis. Extended program students must take at least two courses per semester, and complete the program in four consecutive years. Courses are sequential, and are generally offered once a year during the day. Required academic classes for matriculated students are offered on the Orono campus and some elective courses are offered through the University College University of Maine System distance education program. Our weekend option, located at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, allows students to take classes on weekends and finish in 3 years, including summers. In addition to classroom work, students engage in two field practica; the foundation year internship is 400 clock hours over the course of the academic year, plus a two hour weekly seminar, and the advanced year internship is 500 clock hours with a regularly scheduled seminar. The School's Field Coordinator arranges placements in reasonable proximity to your residence.

The advanced standing program is for applicants who received their BSWs from CSWE accredited institutions within the past five years. Advanced standing students take a total of 44 credit hours, including approximately 4 to 6 weeks of classes (eight – eleven credit hours) during the summer prior to starting fall classes. These classes are referred to as "bridging courses" and require full-time attendance for four days per week. A two year extended program is available after the summer "bridging courses" to those who qualify for advanced standing, but who want to take a part-time program. Please remember to include your final year field evaluation form with your application. If you are currently a senior send your mid-year evaluation form with your application.

The Master's of Social Work Program is designed for people who are interested in entering the social work profession at an advanced professional level and for people currently in the profession who are interested in upgrading their knowledge, skills, credentials and career potential.

Please refer to the attached Application Checklist and the enclosed materials for information on how to complete the application. Use our guidelines, found on the checklist for writing the essay. Please note the deadline for the Orono and the Belfast MSW program is February 15, 2007. For additional information, please contact me or a member of the Admissions Committee, School of Social Work, RM 112, 5770 Social Work Building, Orono, ME 04469-5770, (207) 581-2389.

Thank you for your interest.

**Sincerely,
Sandra Sue Butler, Interim Director
School of Social Work
MSW Program Coordinator**