

Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Social Work Degree at Fayetteville State University

Fayetteville State University (FSU) requests authorization to establish a Bachelor of Social Work degree program (CIP 44.0701).

Program Description

The mission of this proposed 120 semester credit hour Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program is to prepare students for generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in rural, urban, and military settings. There will be special emphasis on military families, primary and behavioral health care issues, geriatrics, poverty in rural counties, and promotion of quality education for K-12 children and youth. Because the FSU service region is home to three large military installations (Fort Bragg, Pope Air Force Base, and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base), the BSW students will have the opportunity to engage in internship and volunteer experiences at military sites, and thereby learn to address the special needs of, and services available to, the military connected consumer. Furthermore, given the composition and diversity of the FSU student body, the program will actively recruit African American males and Hispanic students, thereby seeking to increase these under-represented populations in the social work profession. The proposed baccalaureate program will build upon existing minor and Master of Social Work programs currently offered at FSU. UNC-GA explored the issue of placing an undergraduate social work program online, and FSU has indicated they will plan to offer this program electronically. There will be follow up discussion to see if other programs in social work may want to join in a collaborative project.

UNC Tomorrow Relevance

This program would address several Recommendations within the UNC Tomorrow Report including the components to enhance our Global Readiness (Recommendation 4.1), Our Citizens and Their Future: Access to Higher Education (Recommendation 4.2), Our Children and Their Future: Improving Public Education (Recommendation 4.3), Our Communities and Their Economic Transformation (Recommendation 4.4), and Our Health (Recommendation 4.5).

Highlights from UNC-GA Data Template

Twelve other UNC campuses currently offer a Bachelor of Social Work major. Over the past four years, ten of these twelve programs have increased in enrollment, one has remained constant, and one has decreased in enrollment. Ten private colleges/universities in North Carolina also offer a BSW major. In the past three years, FSU has established one and discontinued three baccalaureate programs.

Outcome of Consultation with Disciplinary Panels

The panel included faculty members from ECU, UNC-CH, and UNCP in addition to the FSU faculty presenters. Panel members asked thoughtful questions about the proposed program and especially about the competition already occurring now among existing BSW programs for available internship positions. FSU explained why it believes there are a sufficient number of internship opportunities available in the FSU service region for students in the proposed program.

Student Demand

Freshman students in University Studies, sociology, psychology, criminal justice, and three courses in the social work minor completed a questionnaire in December 2006 concerning their interest in a BSW program if one were available at FSU. Forty-four percent (44%) of the students indicated they were interested in a BSW program of study. Moreover, the high enrollment in the social work minor program (128 students in Fall 2009) demonstrates the student interest in this discipline at FSU. The program projects full enrollment of the program in its fourth year will be 60 full-time upper division students. It is estimated that approximately 30% of these undergraduates would be students who would not have attended FSU otherwise.

Opportunities for Graduates of the Program

Data from the US Department of Labor indicate that employment of social workers in North Carolina is expected to increase by 25 percent during the 2006-2016 decade, which is much faster than the average for all occupations. Counties in the FSU service area include Bladen, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland. According to the proposal, these counties rank in the top five percent on many social problems that confront the state, such as teenage pregnancy, poverty, gang violence, low birth weight babies, infant mortality, substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental illness. Thus, based on statistical information, there is a significant need for more social workers in the FSU service region. Also, as stated in the application, the BRAC program involving the military bases will produce a need for additional Social Service Assistants (BSW-trained social workers) in the FSU geographical area.

Resource Implications

Resource needs: To meet Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requirements, four new faculty positions will eventually be needed for the proposed program. (Two positions are needed the first year.) The existing social work minor courses will all be utilized in the new baccalaureate program, and 13 new courses will be developed. Ongoing financial support for the new program will be mainly enrollment growth funding.

Resources allocated: Due to the existing social work minor and MSW programs, the current library resources, physical facilities, and technology resources are all adequate for the initiation of the BSW program. The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has committed to providing the faculty positions and other resources needed to begin the program.

Estimated cost to the State: Based on the University funding formula, when the program reaches full enrollment, FSU would receive additional state appropriations of approximately \$103,000 if fully funded by the General Assembly.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve Fayetteville State University's request to establish a Bachelor of Social Work degree program (CIP 44.0701) subject to the availability of funding.

General Information Template for Academic Program Review

Degree Area and Level:

B.S. in Social Work (CIP 44.0701) at FSU

Addressing UNC Tomorrow:

This proposed program would address several Recommendations within the UNC Tomorrow Report including the components to enhance our Global Readiness (Recommendation 4.1), Our Citizens and Their Future: Access to Higher Education (Recommendation 4.2), Our Children and Their Future: Improving Public Education (Recommendation 4.3), Our Communities and Their Economic Transformation (Recommendation 4.4), and Our Health (Recommendation 4.5).

Role of Program in Relation to State and Regional Needs:

According to the proposal, “The FSU service area has complex features of rural, urban and military social problems that require unique social interventions. Counties in the service area include Bladen, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland. These counties rank in the top five (5) percent on many social problems that confront the state. State wide statistical data that rank social issues by county indicate that Cumberland County ranks 2nd in teenage pregnancy for 15-19 year olds; 3rd for low weight birth; 4th for infant mortality; 4th for violent deaths; 1st for juvenile first offense cases; 1st for substantiated child abuse; 2nd for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients; and 2nd substantiated child neglect cases. Thus, based on the numbers noted in the statistical data, there is a dire need for more social workers in the Cumberland county service area.”

US Labor Department Analysis:

- *Summary* – Employment of social workers is expected to increase by 22 percent during the 2006-16 decade, which is much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment of child, family and school social workers is expected to grow by 19 percent, which is faster than the average for all occupations. One of the major contributing factors is the rise in the elderly population. Social workers, particularly family social workers, will be needed to assist in finding the best care for the aging and to support their families. Furthermore, demand for school social workers will increase and lead to more jobs as efforts are expanded to respond to rising student enrollments as well as the continued emphasis on integrating disabled children into the general school population. Mental health and substance abuse social workers will grow by 30 percent, which is much faster than the average, over the 2006-16 decade. In particular, social workers specializing in substance abuse will experience strong demand. Substance abusers are increasingly being placed into treatment programs instead of being sentenced to prison. Growth of medical and public health social workers is expected to be 24 percent, which is much faster than the average for all occupations. Hospitals continue to limit the length of patient stays, so the demand for social workers in hospitals will grow more slowly than in other areas. But hospitals are releasing patients earlier than in the past, so social worker employment in home health care services is growing.

Source: http://www.occsupplydemand.org/OSD_UnitOfAnalysis.aspx?CLUSCODE=168A-10&ST=NC&PathNo=1

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Availability of Program Statewide (Enrollment and Degrees Awarded in Last 3 Years):

- *Public universities*

Enrollment			Academic Year						
			Fall 06	Spr 07	Fall 07	Spr 08	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09
ASU	Social Work	BSW	130	131	152	136	144	137	135
ECSU	Social Work	BSW	53	68	69	68	38	62	58
ECU	Social Work	BSW	108	102	97	106	124	137	127
NCA&T	Social Work	BSW	119	142	139	168	130	147	117
NCCU	Social Work	BSW	81	94	100	100	83	76	65
NCSU	Social Work	BSW	76	68	63	70	80	76	82
UNC-C	Social Work	BSW	130	141	127	140	140	155	137
UNC-G	Social Work	BSW	137	165	160	188	155	179	162
UNC-P	Social Work	BSW	122	124	136	141	138	131	148
UNC-W	Social Work	BSW	56	101	66	84	32	59	55
WCU	Social Work	BS	75	74	82	78	85	83	88
WSSU	Social Work	BSW	6	7	16	15	20	19	23

Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year		
			2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009
ASU	Social Work	BSW	50	57	55
ECSU	Social Work	BSW	20	22	23
ECU	Social Work	BSW	49	46	48
NCA&T	Social Work	BSW	49	50	54
NCCU	Social Work	BSW	18	35	24
NCSU	Social Work	BSW	30	20	30
UNC-C	Social Work	BSW	38	49	50
UNC-G	Social Work	BSW	59	66	80
UNC-P	Social Work	BSW	45	37	43
UNC-W	Social Work	BSW	40	51	37
WCU	Social Work	BS	33	30	38
WSSU	Social Work	BSW	N/A	N/A	3

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- *Private universities* – Data Sources: Occupational Supply Demand System and the U.S. Department of Education Institute of Education Sciences.

Number of Degrees Awarded		Academic Year		
		2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Barton College	Bachelor of Social Work	20	12	14
Bennett College for Women	Bachelor of Social Work	7	14	15
Campbell University	Bachelor of Social Work	11	10	17
Johnson C Smith University	Bachelor of Social Work	10	10	10
Livingston College	Bachelor of Social Work	8	4	13
Mars Hill College	Bachelor of Social Work	10	11	10
Meredith College	Bachelor of Social Work	17	13	11
Methodist University	Bachelor of Social Work	19	18	14
Shaw University	Bachelor of Social Work	10	29	41
Warren Wilson College	Bachelor of Social Work	4	4	5

Available in Online or Distance Format from UNC institutions:

ASU and UNCW offer their BSW programs via site based delivery. The BSW is not available through UNC Online.

Available or not from Academic Common Market:

North Carolina does not participate in the ACM at the undergraduate level.

FSU Campus enrollment and degrees awarded in similar programs at the Bachelors level:

(Based on two CIP digits – 44 CIP is the summary group for Public Administration and Services under which Social Work is a program.) The only degree program in this CIP at the Bachelors level offered at FSU is the BA in Intelligence Studies and was approved by the BOG on 11/13/2009.

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Campus Average of enrollment and degrees awarded in this degree area at the Bachelors level:

(Based on two CIP digits – 44 CIP is the summary group for Public Administration and Services under which Social Work is a program - over the last 3 Academic Years, Fall 2006-Fall 2009.)

Campus Average			
	Number of Active Programs	Enrollment per Semester	Degrees Awarded per Year
ASU	1	138	54
ECSU	1	59	22
ECU	1	114	48
NCA&T	1	137	51
NCCU	1	86	26
NCSU	1	74	27
UNCC	1	139	46
UNC-CH	1	106	48
UNCG	1	164	68
UNCP	1	134	42
UNCW	1	65	43
WCU	2	59	25
WSSU	1	15	3 *in 2008-2009
Campus Average:		99	39

FSU Campus Degree Programs added in the past three years:

- Bachelor
 - BA Intelligence Studies (11/13/2009)
- Master
 - N/A
- Doctoral
 - N/A

FSU Campus Degree Programs discontinued in past three years:

- Bachelor
 - BS Business Education, Secondary (03/20/2009)
 - BA Health Education K-12 (03/20/2009)
 - BS Marketing Education for Teachers (03/20/2009)
- Master
 - N/A
- Doctoral
 - N/A