

# LUTHER COLLEGE

## SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Application to the Social Work Major

### APPLICATION TO THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR

Social work is both a college major (discipline) and a profession. As such, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires undergraduate social work programs to assess students' readiness for the profession of social work. The admission process provides an opportunity for students to consider thoughtfully and consciously the factors that have led to their interest in social work. It provides the faculty with a formal opportunity to talk with students about their interests and readiness, and to plan for the remainder of each student's individual program.

Please type your responses in an electronic or hard copy version of this application. After submitting your application you will be invited to a 15-20 minute conversation with the social work faculty.

**As you complete this application, please be aware that Luther College employees are considered Responsible Employees as it pertains to Title IX related events. Should you disclose an incident of sexual misconduct, we need to report this to Luther's Title IX Coordinator, who will reach out to offer support and options to consider through the conduct system. Accessing services is completely voluntary.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year of Graduation :

1. List social work courses completed, or currently enrolled, along with the letter grade received. \_\_\_\_\_

Courses	Grade	Date of prior or anticipated completion
<i>SW 101: Intro to Social Work</i>		
<i>SW 102: Field Experience</i>		
<i>SW 201: Practice I</i>		
<i>Other:</i>		
<i>Other:</i>		

2. List and describe any of your volunteer or paid experiences that you found relevant to social work. Please describe how these have influenced your interest in social work.
3. Briefly describe your motives for considering the social work major and why you are choosing social work instead of another avenue for working with people.
4. What strengths (personal qualities, assets, motivations, skills, etc.) and challenges (personal limitations, biases, prejudices, vulnerabilities, etc.) do you bring to the social work profession?
5. If you have identified any areas of social work activity of particular interest to you, or any specific populations with whom you would like to work, please describe these and indicate the reasons for your interests.
6. Please identify and describe any personal issues, either past or present, that might impact you as a practicing social worker (e.g. substance use/abuse, health/mental health issues, abilities/disabilities, experiences of trauma/maltreatment, etc.). While you are not required to share this information, discussion of such issues can assist your professors in providing reasonable accommodations, and in supporting your learning in a way that can help you to reach your goals. Please also complete the attached form "Disciplinary Release of Information for Admission the the

### Essay for Application to Social Work Major

Attach a separate sheet(s) for answering the following items. (Use no more than three double-spaced pages.)

- A. Describe two or three formative episodes in your life that have influenced your career choice.
- B. Reflecting on your Field Experience (SW 102):
  - What did you learn about social work? What have you learned about yourself (both interests and professional skills) as a professional social worker?
  - Please reflect specifically on any feedback in your SW 102 evaluation: *What were your strengths and areas for growth? What will you need to do in order to address areas for growth?*
  - **Please attach your SW 102 evaluation to this application.**
- C. Describe potential personal, ethical or value conflict(s) you think might occur for you in social work practice

Attachment: Disciplinary Release of Information for Admission to Major and Field Placement

**Disciplinary Release of Information for  
Admission to Major and Field Placement**

Students admitted to the social work major and applying for field placement are required to demonstrate their suitability to enter the profession of Social Work by maintaining compliance with the Luther Honor Code, Luther College Student Handbook, and the NASW Social Work Code of Ethics. Specific requirements for admission and retention in the major can be found in the Social Work Student Handbook at [www.luther.edu/socialwork](http://www.luther.edu/socialwork)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, consent for my disciplinary record (for both on and off campus) to be released to the Social Work program as part of admission, retention and field placement in the social work major. I understand that my disciplinary record (*including all pending charges*) will be reviewed as a part of the acceptance and retention process. I understand that if I receive a penalty or disciplinary action at any time, it is my responsibility to notify the Social Work Program Director. My signature allows for a disciplinary review to be completed at any time during the duration of my enrollment in the Luther College Social Work major. If I have any questions or concerns with this form I should be in contact with Britt Rhodes, Social Work Program Director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To the Dean of Student Life:** Your comments may be used by the Social Work Program Faculty when evaluating the student for admission to the major, retention in the major, and placement in the practicum semester. Once admitted to the major, students are required to adhere to not only the Luther College Student Handbook but also the NASW Code of Ethics.

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|---|----------------|
| Has the applicant ever been placed on probation, suspended, or expelled?                      | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Are any disciplinary charges pending?   | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Does the applicant currently have 4 or more points on their points history?                   | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Has the applicant ever been found responsible for a violation of the Luther Student Handbook? | ___ Yes ___ No |

If the answer to any of the above is “yes”, please explain.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_