

Just as students have the responsibility to learn and apply the skills necessary to succeed in the professional social work environment, so too the faculty have the responsibility for ensuring that students have met the expectations for proceeding to the fieldwork component of the BA Social Work program and entering the professional environment.

Social Work program personnel track the academic progress of all BA Social Work students. After a student passes six of the nine social work classes required for practicum eligibility, with grades of "C" or higher, the Social Work Field Director contacts that student to set up a meeting (by phone or Adobe Connect). This meeting is also called the Readiness Review.

The Field Director speaks with the student and communicates with at least two of their previous social work course instructors, to assess the student's readiness for proceeding to practicum. After completing assessment of the student's readiness, the Field Director may, at his/her discretion, lift the default registration hold on practicum courses and enable the student to register for SOCU 493, to be taken in a session after the student has passed nine BASW classes with a grade of "C" or higher. After the Field Director informs the student that the hold is lifted, the student must work with the Field Director to identify a practicum site, submit required documentation, and receive formal approval, before starting practicum hours at their site.

Please note that proceeding to the social work practicum is not guaranteed. For this professional program, the Program Director and Field Director have the professional responsibility for reasonably assuring that individuals who complete the program are aware of and capable of functioning within the established ethical and professional standards of the social work profession. Consequently, in certain cases, they may deny a student approval to proceed to practicum, and that student will be unable to complete the BA in Social Work program. A student in that situation may consider changing to a different major such as Applied Studies, Sociology, or Social Science, and use social work courses taken to date as program electives within that major.