

**Handbook**  
**for**  
**School Social Work**  
**Graduate Licensure Program**



**JMSW Program**  
**A Joint Master of Social Work Program**  
**North Carolina A&T State University**  
**The University of North Carolina at Greensboro**

## **Introduction**

This handbook is designed to provide information for students preparing for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Licensure for School Social Work. The requirements for admission, policies, and procedures for this program have been determined by the JMSW Program in collaboration with the UNCG School of Education-Teachers Academy. This program's DPI & NCATE reaccreditation extends to the NCA&T School of Education so when JMSW students are admitted through that institution their School Social Work license is administered & licenses awarded by that university. Since this Licensure Program comes under the UNCG Teachers' Academy the reader will find that mission statement for that program indicated below.

### **Teachers Academy Conceptual Framework**

"The mission of professional education at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro is to ensure *“Access to Opportunities through Teaching, Learning and Caring.”* This requires excellence in all our programs through alignment to state and national standards; explicit connections between research, theory and practice; candidates' acquisition of the knowledge, skills and dispositions of their disciplines; detailed evaluation of our candidates' continual professional growth; collaboration among stakeholders; ongoing self-study; and an overriding commitment to fostering beliefs and actions that promote education for all. Toward these ends, our Unit and programs focus on six areas: leadership, professional knowledge, professional practice, educational environments, data-informed decision making, and professional growth to support the learning of all children in the context of 21<sup>st</sup> century complexity and dynamic change."

# Mission & Goals for JMSW Program

## Mission Statement for JMSW Program

The mission of the Joint MSW Program is to prepare professional social workers for advanced generalist practice with youth and families at risk or with people affected by health and mental health issues; to provide culturally-competent, ethical, and effective social work services to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; to collaborate with consumers and colleagues in the development of practices that promote social and economic justice and benefit the citizens of North Carolina; and to conduct research and community-engaged scholarship. The context for this mission is an intentional, multicultural learning community in which difference is understood as a defining value and diversity is celebrated. The signature pedagogy is field education.

When the faculty revised the JMSW mission statement, they also updated the goals of the program. The following goals were adopted by the faculty on April 2, 2010.

## Goals

Four program goals reflect the mission of the Joint MSW program in three complementary areas: the provision of a quality master's level social work curriculum; service to the people of North Carolina; and scholarship.

**Goal 1.** Create an intentional learning community which recognizes, understands, supports, and honors diversity and difference, especially for students from oppressed groups.

**Goal 2.** Prepare graduates to engage in culturally-competent, effective, ethical, advanced generalist social work practice with youth and families at risk or with people affected by health and mental health issues.

**Goal 3.** Prepare graduates to be leaders who collaborate with consumers and colleagues to promote social and economic justice and improve the lives of the people of North Carolina.

**Goal 4.** Conduct and disseminate community-engaged scholarship which contributes to the knowledge base of the profession and promotes effective social work practice.

## **Goals for School Social Work Licensure**

The following goals specific to the JMSW School Social Work Licensure Program related both to the above JMSW Program goals and the six foci for the UNCG Teachers' Academy Conceptual Framework.

1. To increase students' knowledge & understanding of school social work practice.
2. To increase students' skills in school social work practice including working as a member of the educational team, overseeing case management/monitoring, conducting individual counseling and group work.
3. To increase students' skills with K-12 students such that they support and enhance academic achievement of these students in the classroom, with particular emphasis on at risk student populations.
4. To increase students' professional growth as a school social workers such that these individuals conduct ethical practice consistent with the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics (includes respect for diversity and non-judgmental attitude in regard to clients' values & beliefs some of which may be based on their ethnicity) , utilize professional supervision and consultation as needed, and demonstrate maturity and good critical thinking skills in their interactions with teachers, students, & parents.
5. To develop students' leadership skills as shown by their advocacy for K-12 students' rights, their inclusion of all K-12 students for support and other school related services, and their initiative in regard to establishing school- wide programs that will further enhance all students' academic achievement.
6. To increase students' skills in evaluating the treatment outcomes of their school social services and using that data to inform future services.

# **JMSW Program**

## **Requirements for Graduate School Social Work Licensure**

1. Students eligible to be considered for admission to this program must be accepted into the JMSW Program, be accepted and attending either the two year full-time or three year part-time program, have successfully completed all of their first semester courses (15 graduate hours) and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students in the advanced standing program are not eligible to apply to this licensure program.
2. At the completion of the first semester of coursework in the JMSW Program, interested students must complete an electronic *Application for JMSW Graduate Licensure in School Social Work*.
3. This online application form must be completed by 5:00pm on January 14th. A review of the student's application will be completed to determine either an admission or denial of admission to the JMSW Graduate Licensure Program in School Social Work. Students who have met the minimum eligibility criteria to be considered for admission to this program are not guaranteed this recommendation. A limited number of placements in school settings are available each year for field placements. Subsequently, if the number of interested applicants exceeds available placements, a priority order for acceptance into this program will be based on students' overall GPA.
4. Students recommended for admission to this program will have their paperwork processed either through the NCA&T State University School of Education or the UNCG School of Education. Students' admission materials for this program are processed through the campus where they were initially admitted to the JMSW Program. Students must also complete the online Criminal Background Check and follow procedures outlined by Teacher Education for Professional Liability Insurance Policy if admitted through UNCG.
5. Students must successfully complete field instruction in a school setting (SOWK722/SWK635 and SOWK723/SWK 640).
6. Students must complete the following coursework with a minimum grade of B in the course-SWK 651: Advanced School Social Work.
7. After completion of above requirements and once transcripts are released to the Registrar's office, students apply for their license through either the UNCG or NC A&T State University School of Education by completing the online form titled *Application for North Carolina Licensure for Professional Personnel*.