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Subject Admissions – BSW		Effective 8/94
		Revised

PURPOSE: To provide an evaluation system and procedures for BSW Admissions

SOURCE: Faculty Council

APPLICABILITY: All BSW Applicants

POLICY:

To allow for faculty input in selection of applicants and to assure a proper fit between students and the Social Work program, students must meet a number of criteria and go through an admission process before being accepted into the BSW program.

Admission Criteria:

To apply for admission to the BSW program, students must have met the following criteria:

- A minimum cumulative ASU GPA of 2.50;
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in core social work courses (SWU 271, 291, 301, and 310), and a grade of “C” or higher in all social work courses;
- Completion of all lower-division General Studies requirements as described by the University and as part of the BSW program;
- Educational and career goals that are compatible with the educational objectives of the School;
- Completion of 240 hours of social work - related volunteer or paid work. Equivalent family/personal experiences are acceptable.

Admission is selective and based on available resources. Not all students who meet minimum requirements are admitted to the program.

Application Process:

Students may apply to the BSW program for the Spring or Fall semester. The deadline for submission of applications for the Fall semester is March 1st. The deadline for submission of applications for the Spring semester is November 1st. All applicants must complete a BSW program application including:

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1. A statement of educational and career goals;
2. Two references, one professional and one academic;
3. A reference from the instructor of the student's SWU 310 course.

Application Review Process:

4. The student support staff shall process all admissions materials and create a rating form for each applicant.
5. All application files will be read and evaluated by two School of Social Work faculty members and the BSW Program Coordinator. Applications will be evaluated on the student's overall ASU GPA, Social Work GPA, motivation (as exhibited through volunteer/paid experience), content and writing skills in the personal statement, and references. Special consideration is given to applicants who meet one or more of the following conditions:
 - Applicant has special knowledge of and/or documented commitment to a minority group and/or has lived in a minority community as part of his/her life experience.
 - Applicant has special knowledge of and/or commitment to rural communities, low-income populations, disabled persons, children/youth, the aged, and/or women with unique problems.
 - Applicant has demonstrated ability to achieve academic goals despite severe or unusual circumstances such as a physical disability, being a single head of household, or raising children while completing undergraduate study.
 - Applicant has demonstrated ability in a language used by historically oppressed populations in the Southwest, including Spanish, Native American languages, or sign language for the hearing impaired

Special consideration may include, but is not limited to, admission on a probationary basis for students whose GPA does not meet the admissions criteria, and admission with the requirement of taking additional writing courses for students whose writing skills are deemed to be inadequate.

3. When recommended by reviewers, some applicants will be interviewed by members of the Admissions Committee to determine whether or not the student should be admitted to the program

Re-Application and Appeals Process

1. Students who are denied admission to the BSW program may reapply after the reason for their denial has been corrected (i.e., their GPA has been raised).
2. Students may also appeal the admission decision to the BSW Admissions Committee.