Fact sheet for Social Work Student Placements

Agency requirements

- Students are required to be supervised by a worker eligible for membership with The Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW).
- Field Educators (Supervisors) must have a minimum of 2 years post-qualifying working experience.
- A mid-semester and final semester final evaluation is to be completed by the supervisor.

Placement hours

Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)
- First Placement 500 hours (18 weeks, 4 days per week).
- Second Placement 500 hours (18 weeks, 4 days per week).

Masters of Social Work Studies
- 32 Unit Program - First Placement 500 hours (18 weeks, 4 days per week).
- 32 Unit Program - Second Placement 500 hours (18 weeks, 4 days per week).
- 24 Unit Program - First and only placement 600 hours (18-21 weeks, 4-5 days per week).

Supervision

- Students are expected to receive approximately 1 hour of formal supervision per week, in addition to the informal supervision, support and debriefing on a daily basis that generally occurs for students on placement.
- A UQ field liaison tutor will undertake a minimum of 2 formal liaison contacts throughout the placement in order to support the placement process and address any concerns and/or issues if they arise.

Student activities on placement

Please refer to the Social work Field Education Manual which is available on the [Field Education webpage](#). Examples of the types of activities include:

- Observing, assisting and facilitating group meetings.
- Supervised interviews with clients and service users.
- Maintenance of records and reports, including reviewing files and preparing summary reports.
- Visits to other agencies and services.
- Assisting and facilitating community consultations, advocacy, training or educational activities and programs.
- Gathering and analysing data for research, social histories or service/program evaluations.
• Observing, planning and/or conducting non-therapy groups (e.g., teaching social skills or budgeting, activity groups or information classes for young people).

• Meeting individually with clients to provide support and assistance, such as social skills training.

• Administration and scoring of assessments, questionnaires, surveys.

• Writing social histories and other reports.

• Working on special projects (e.g., program evaluation, preparation and organisation of an event, development of a new program or service).

• Administrative duties such as preparing information kits for clients, resource kits for staff.

• Previewing new educational material and videos for potential use with clients.

• Attending conferences, seminars and training sessions.

• Assisting with writing a funding submission or fund raising activities.

Note: Students can only conduct research or data gathering when they have developed an appropriate ethics protocol and have approval from the relevant ethics committee/authority as set out in the host organisation’s policy manual.

Further information

The UQ School of Nursing, Midwifery & Social Work Website
The UQ School of Nursing, Midwifery & Social Work Field Education Unit

Email: fielded@uq.edu.au
Phone: +61 7 3365 2068