

SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER PROGRAM (C119)

PROGRAM NAME	Social Service Worker	TUITION	\$3,929.00*
COURSE CODE	C119	ADDITIONAL COST	
SCHOOL	School of Social and Community Services	* Amounts listed are the total of tuition, materials, student service and ancillary fees for the first two semesters of programs starting in Fall 2018. Fees are subject to change for programs starting in Fall 2019 and at later dates.	
CENTRE	Community Services and Early Childhood	International students: Visit the International Fees and Related Costs ² page for more information.	
LOCATION	St. James Campus		
DURATION	2 years (4 semesters)		
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	Field Placement		
STARTING MONTH	September		
CREDENTIAL	Ontario College Diploma		
YEAR OF STUDY	2019-2020		
METHOD OF STUDY	FT		
APPLY TO	Ontario Colleges ¹		

Social Service Worker (SSW) is an innovative two-year program designed to guide you in developing the knowledge, values and skills to work directly with a wide range of people confronting the full breadth of social issues and challenges. You will have the opportunity to learn to identify and understand systemic barriers that can impede access to social and economic justice in today's society, and work with those most affected to break down those barriers.

Students will examine the expanding professional roles and responsibilities of Social Service Workers in large urban centres and within a rapidly changing society.

In addition to the theoretical models, methods and skills of social service work practice, you will learn about:

- group facilitation
- advocacy and anti-oppressive practice
- counselling skills
- community development
- social innovation
- mental health
- substance use and addiction

Apply to this program if you:

- have strong interpersonal skills and a comfort with working with people
- are committed to working toward a more just and equitable society
- are committed to examining the dynamics of power and oppression in a diverse society
- are committed to examining yourself and your social location
- are seeking to work with a wide range of individuals, groups and communities
- are prepared to engage in and develop the skills to lead difficult discussions in the classroom and in the field

Many of the Social Service Worker faculty have professional experience with:

- federal, provincial and municipal governments
- marginalized communities
- institutional health and social service organizations
- a range of not-for-profit organizations and agencies
- direct practice with individuals, families, groups and communities
- developing socially innovative programs and initiatives

FAST-TRACK OPTION

There is a one-year Social Service Worker full-time option³ available to graduates of a baccalaureate program in disciplines such as psychology, sociology, women's studies, environmental studies, education and cultural anthropology at a university. Students with degrees from other disciplines **may** be considered if they successfully completed a minimum of 6 social science courses.

This fast-track option is also open to graduates of a college diploma program including:

- Assaulted Women's and Children's Counsellor/Advocate⁴
- Child and Youth Care⁵
- Community Worker⁶
- Behavioural Science Technician⁷
- Activation Co-ordinator/Gerontology⁸
- Early Childhood Education⁹

In preparation for the field placement, students will be required to work in multiple small and large groups within classes and community settings.

Find a complete list of degrees and diplomas considered for admission to the SSW C135 fast-track program¹⁰.

SSW Pathways to BSW and MSW¹¹

PART TIME STUDY OPTIONS

This program is not available part-time.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Field Placement

YOUR FIELD STUDY OPTIONS

You will have the opportunity to participate in approximately **550 hours of field experience** supervised by qualified professional practitioners in community agencies in an 8 month placement in second year.

The college maintains relationships with hundreds of agencies operating in a wide range of institutional and community-based settings, both large and small, and throughout the Greater Toronto Area.

INTERNATIONAL PLACEMENTS

The George Brown College School of Social and Community Services has been offering placement opportunities in countries such as Jamaica and India for a number of years. When available, these opportunities are only open to students in the full-time two-year program (C119).

Note: In compliance with the requirements of our student placement partners, all students in this program must have a police vulnerable sector check completed before commencing their field placement. These reference checks, which can take up to four months, are done to protect the clientele of these agencies, who are considered "vulnerable persons" under the law. The fees for the reference checks vary and must be paid by the student. Students are responsible for ensuring that the check covers appropriateness for "individuals being employed and/or volunteering who will be working with vulnerable person(s)."

PROGRAM STANDARDS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Note: Under review and subject to change effective Fall 2018.

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. Develop and maintain professional relationships which adhere to professional, legal, and ethical standards aligned to social service work.
2. Identify strengths, resources, and challenges of individuals, families, groups, and communities to assist them in achieving their goals.
3. Recognize diverse needs and experiences of individuals, groups, families, and communities to promote accessible and responsive programs and services.
4. Identify current social policy, relevant legislation, and political, social, and/or economic systems and their impacts on service delivery.
5. Advocate for appropriate access to resources to assist individuals, families, groups, and communities.
6. Develop and maintain positive working relationships with colleagues, supervisors, and community partners.

7. Develop strategies and plans that lead to the promotion of self-care, improved job performance, and enhanced work relationships.
8. Integrate social group work and group facilitation skills across a wide range of environments, supporting growth and development of individuals, families, and communities.
9. Work in communities to advocate for change strategies that promote social and economic justice and challenge patterns of oppression and discrimination.

REQUIRED COURSES

SEMESTER 1

Code	Course Name
SWRK1026	Canadian Social Welfare
SWRK1042	Values, Ethics and Professional Practice
GSSC1121	The Sociology of Power, Privilege and Identity
SWRK1063	Understanding & Working with Groups
COMM1007	College English or COMM1003 English Skills
GNED	General Education Elective

SEMESTER 2

Code	Course Name
COUN1034	Effective Community in Social Service Work
GSSC1109	Lifespan Development
SWRK1064	Preparation for the Field & Professional Practice
SWRK1065	Social Change & Proposal Development
SWRK2058	Perspectives on Mental Health
GNED	General Education Elective

SEMESTER 3

Code	Course Name
SWRK2090	Field Work Practice
SWRK2091	Field Work Seminar
SWRK2056	Case Management: An Anti-Oppressive Approach
SWRK2057	Substance Use and Addiction
	Program Related Elective

SEMESTER 4

Code	Course Name
SWRK2090	Field Work Practice
SWRK2091	Field Work Seminar
SWRK2097	Counselling Skills with Individuals and Families
	Program Related Elective

PROGRAM RELATED ELECTIVES (FOR SEMESTERS 3 AND 4)

Code	Course Name
SWRK2092	Working with Older Adults
SWRK2093	Disability Discourse
SWRK2094	Work with First Peoples: A Social Service Worker Perspective
SWRK2095	Deconstructing Internalized Privilege and Oppression
SWRK2096	Social Innovation for Social Justice

Note: This program is undergoing curriculum review and development. The revised curriculum is proposed for Fall 2019.

General Education Electives

CAREER OPTIONS

Social Service Worker graduates may work directly with people in social services or be involved in community development or social justice and advocacy initiatives. They will be well prepared to work in diverse urban communities and with individuals, groups and communities confronted with a range of issues related to:

- mental health
- homelessness
- poverty
- substance use and addictions
- criminal justice
- crisis supports
- settlement and immigration
- related personal, emotional or social issues
- other determinants of health and social justice

YOUR CAREER

Graduates meet the educational requirements for registration as a Social Service Worker in the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW).¹² Additional fees apply.

Social Service Worker graduates have found employment in a variety of agency settings, including:

- mental health services
- substance use and addictions
- residential programs
- day programs
- case management services
- shelters
- drop-in and community centres
- family service organizations
- governmental and non-governmental services

FUTURE STUDY OPTIONS

Graduates may apply to complete a second diploma in a related George Brown College program in a reduced time frame (e.g. Community Worker program).

For further information on future study options, see georgebrown.ca/transferguide/

Graduates are eligible to apply for advanced standing in Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programs at:

- Ryerson University¹³ in Toronto
- York University¹⁴ in Toronto
- Lakehead University¹⁵ in Orillia and Thunder Bay
- Algoma University¹⁶ in Sault Ste. Marie

They may also complete a four-year degree program in Community Economic and Social Development at Algoma University¹⁷. With a grade point average of 3.0, graduates of the Social Service Worker program receive two years' credit toward this four-year degree at Algoma University.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are selected on the basis of their academic achievement, including the required courses, and any other selection criteria outlined below.

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma or equivalent**
- Grade 12 English (C or U) - Minimum grade of 70% required

**** MATURE STUDENT STATUS (19 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND NO OSSD)**

Mature Students may take the Admissions Assessment for English¹⁸, OR may consider upgrading to achieve the credit (s) needed in English¹⁹.

Please note that George Brown is committed to ensuring that applicants will succeed in their program of choice and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. Applicants may be required to have grades higher than the minimum requirements stated.

COURSE EXEMPTIONS

College or university credits may qualify you for course exemptions. Please visit georgebrown.ca/transferguide/ for more information.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Visit the International Admissions²⁰ page for more information.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Note: In compliance with the requirements of our student placement partners, all students in this program must have a police vulnerable sector check completed before their field placement. These reference checks, which can take up to four months, are done to protect the clientele of these agencies, who are considered “vulnerable persons” under the law. The fees for the reference checks vary and must be paid by the student. Students are responsible for ensuring that the check covers appropriateness for “individuals being employed and/or volunteering who will be working with vulnerable person(s).” Students who are unable to provide a clear police reference check will be unable to complete their field placement and, therefore, be unable to complete the program. Police vulnerable sector checks must be renewed every year. See www.georgebrown.ca/preplacement/record_check for more information



“The vast education I received helped me to understand social work and open my mind to the many sectors available within the field.”

Belinda Batista²¹
(Graduate 2013, Social Service Worker)

“Throughout my two years as a George Brown College student, I have been provided with an adaptable, unique and diverse experience.

The learning from my program classes has given me a vibrant edge in the field that undoubtedly shaped my experience as a working professional.

The faculty have been incredibly accommodating, understanding, and have created a space where my opinion matters. I have been hired for a full-time position and have received two other phone calls for interviews.

George Brown’s student placement opportunities, dedicated faculty and leading edge teaching have helped me to become a more confident Social Service Worker and I will forever be grateful.”

Brittany Clayton (Graduate 2016, Social Service Worker), Community Support Worker, St. Michael’s Hospital

Maureen Boettcher, Social Service Worker Program Co-ordinator

Phone: 416-415-5000, ext. 6070

Email: mboettch@georgebrown.ca

For more information about George Brown College, you may also call the Contact Centre at 416-415-2000 (TTY 1-877-515-5559) or long distance 1-800-265-2002.

LINKS REFERENCE

¹<https://collegeapply.ontariocolleges.ca/?collegeCode=GBTC&programCode=C119&lang=en>

²<http://www.georgebrown.ca/international/futurestudents/tuitionfees/>

³<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/social-service-worker-program-fast-track-c135/>

⁴<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/assaulted-womens-and-childrens-counsellor-advocate-program-c137/>

⁵<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/child-and-youth-care-program-c133/>

⁶<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/community-worker-program-c101/>

⁷<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/behavioural-science-technician-program-c146/>

⁸<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/activation-co-ordinator-gerontology-program-c102/>

⁹<http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/early-childhood-education-program-c100/>

¹⁰http://www.georgebrown.ca/C135_programs_considered_for_admission.aspx

¹¹http://www.georgebrown.ca/pathways/SSW_Pathways_to_BSW_and_MSW.pdf

¹²<http://www.ocswssw.org/>

¹³<https://www.ryerson.ca/>

¹⁴<http://www.yorku.ca/>

¹⁵<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/>

¹⁶<https://www.algomau.ca/>

¹⁷<https://www.algomau.ca/>

¹⁸<http://www.georgebrown.ca/assessment/admi-pre/>

¹⁹<http://www.georgebrown.ca/upgrading-credits/english-diploma/>

²⁰<http://www.georgebrown.ca/international/futurestudents/howtoapply/>

²¹<http://www.georgebrown.ca/social-community-services/alumni/belinda-batista/>

George Brown College is continually striving to improve its programs and their delivery. The information contained in this calendar is subject to change without notice. It should not be viewed as a representation, offer or warranty. Students are responsible for verifying George Brown College admission, graduation, and fee requirements as well as any requirements of outside institutions, industry associations, or other bodies that may award additional designations concurrently with, or after completion of, a George Brown College program.

CONTACT US

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Our office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.