MSW APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants interested in ECU’s MSW program will need to complete one application through the graduate school, which can be found at: www.ecu.edu/gradschool

You are advised to submit all application materials in a timely manner to allow the ECU Graduate School and the MSW Admissions Committee sufficient time to process your application. Applicants will be reviewed only upon receipt of ALL application materials and information. Application materials must be RECEIVED by the East Carolina Graduate School Office by January 8th.

If you are accepted you will be notified of the date by which you must confirm acceptance in order to hold your place. If you are accepted, you are required to attend an orientation meeting, the date of which you will be notified in your acceptance letter.

East Carolina University financial aid information may be obtained from the following link:
http://www.ecu.edu/financial/

A completed application MUST contain the following:

1. East Carolina University Graduate Application, including application fee.

2. Three completed references - The Graduate School requires that individuals submit their references electronically. After paying the Graduate School Application fee, an e-mail will be sent to you with a link to send to your references concerning this process

3. Official copies of transcripts from all institutions attended

4. A final official copy of transcript from institution noting the conferral of your undergraduate degree

5. The response to 3 essay questions on the application (see below for these questions)

6. A complete resume

7. Make sure that you have ECU listed as recipient for your GRE or MAT test scores if you did not receive a waiver.

8. GRE/MAT Test Waivers - The following waivers are available for applicants into the MSW program, depending on qualification and are based on the final approval of the MSW Director:
   a. BSW from a CSWE accredited program with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher
   b. Completion of an undergraduate degree 10 years or more prior and at least 10 years of social work paid practice
   c. A completed Master’s degree

If you believe you qualify for a waiver, once you have filled out and paid for the graduate application, please email Dr. Averett @ averettp@ecu.edu to request the waiver.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Because social work is a profession concerned with personal growth and social change, it is important in assessing your application, to have your written comments on several issues. As well, your writing ability and potential as a graduate student is assessed in these questions. In view of the importance of this section, include substantive responses to the following questions:
A. Discuss the development of your interest in social work and social welfare. Discuss why you have chosen to pursue a MSW degree at this time, and discuss your career goals and plans following completion of your degree.

B. Discuss the personal assets and areas of weakness that you bring to the School of Social Work, which are relevant to your professional education, training, and future performance as a social worker.

C. Discuss the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and describe in depth how the code is compatible or incompatible with your personal values and worldview. The Code of Ethics of NASW can be found on the Internet at: https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English

LIBERAL ARTS COURSES:

Consistent with the importance ascribed to the liberal arts perspective by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and East Carolina University, applicants must provide evidence of adequate academic preparation. Such preparation must include satisfactory completion (i.e., at least a “C”) of undergraduate course work in each of the following areas: the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and mathematics.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE COMPLETED A BIOLOGY COURSE, A RESEARCH/STATISTICS COURSE PLUS ADDITIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COURSES TO EQUAL 21 SEMESTER HOURS. Use the following guidelines for each content area:

1. In the Natural Sciences, completion of a minimum of 3 credit hours of coursework in Human Biology. Courses that meet the Human Biology requirement include General Biology (with a health emphasis), Anatomy, Physiology, Reproduction, Biology of Aging, etc.

2. Humanities requirement is documented by completions of a minimum of 6 semester credit hours in English, a foreign language, philosophy, religion, music, art, communication, theatre, government, etc.

3. The applicant should have completed a minimum of 6 semester credit hours in the Social Sciences, e.g. Psychology, Economics, Political Science, Sociology.

4. To meet the Mathematics requirement, a student must have taken at least 3 credit hours minimum in a basic college mathematics, college algebra, or statistics course

5. The applicant must also have completed 3 semester hours in a social science research course with a significant statistics component, or 3 semester hours of statistics.

Given these general guidelines, please review your undergraduate transcript(s) and note which courses meet the requirements for each content area listed above.