



Newsletter November 2025



Washburn Student Social Work Association News

2025-2026 WSSWA officer members:

Natalia Loya- President

Lauren Lightbourne- Vice President

Starla Bennett- Treasurer

Damari Tyree- Secretary

Faculty advisors: Serena Kent and Kelli Verble

**WSSWA meeting November 7, 2025,
Noon-1p.m.**

This meeting also serves as the Fall Student Governance meeting. Come meet the program directors and hear about opportunities for input in your program.

All are welcome to attend in person and virtually:

<https://washburn.zoom.us/j/87491267843?pwd=aVk1I2hNfqEiiGD8bjlboZJzKQHyEP.1>

Textbook Scholarship

The Department of Social Work is pleased to offer \$500 Textbook Scholarships for Spring 2026 to help offset the cost of required course materials.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic standing and financial need.

Eligibility:

BSW Students: Full-time, GPA 3.0+, formally admitted to the program

MSW Students: Full or part-time (6+ credit hours), GPA 3.5+, formally admitted

All applicants must submit a brief Statement of Need describing financial challenges, the impact of this scholarship, and future goals in social work.

Email social-work@washburn.edu to obtain an application

Application Deadline: November 15
Submit to: social-work@washburn.edu

We encourage all eligible students to apply!

SW Scholarship application for 2026-27

The School of Applied Studies offers scholarships to BSW and MSW students each year based on need and academic performance. Applicants must be an admitted social work student who plans to enroll in Fall 2026.

The application is open now with a deadline of February 15th, 2026 at 11:59 pm. The application will be completed through an online form. More information and the link to the online application is on the School of Applied Studies Scholarship webpage. Applied Studies Scholarship Application | Washburn University

Questions can be directed to your social work advisor or Alicia Moulden in the SAS Dean's Office.

Accreditation: What is it and why does it matter to me?

Accreditation is a process by an independent organization to ensure another institution meets certain quality standards. The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredits the BSW and MSW Programs at Washburn and similar programs across the country. Graduation from an accredited program is a requirement to obtain a social work license in most states.

Washburn's BSW program was one of the first programs in the country to be accredited back in 1974. The MSW program started in 1994 and earned accreditation in 1996. CSWE reaffirms accreditation every 8 years through a rigorous review process. Our department submitted 959 pages of self-study documents in July 2025 as part of our review. On February 5, 2026, two site visitors will be on campus to discuss our programs. They will meet with Dr. Mazachek, our faculty, and students while they are on campus.

Field Education Day

November 18th, 2025, 1230-230p.m.

Washburn University 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka, KS 66621

Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center, Ruth Garvey Fink Convention Hall

Contact us at (785) 670-1979 or serena.kent@washburn.edu



18 Community partners have signed up! Come meet community partners who host SW field education students and hire our graduates.

Save the date!

Licensing Exam Workshop, February 6, 2026, 8:45a.m.-12:30p.m.

Phi Alpha Induction Ceremony April 23, 2026

Are you a Phi Alpha member that was inducted last spring? Would you be interested in helping to plan the 2026 Phi Alpha Induction Ceremony? Please reach out to Serena Kent or Kelli Verble for more information.

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If you are scheduled to be in field education placement next school year, 2026-2027, please keep an eye out for an email from [social-work@washburn.edu](mailto:social-work@washburn.edu) with next steps.

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