Social Work Career Outlook 2014–2015

Social Work Programs Available at Bemidji State University:
Major: Social Work (B.S.)
Minor: Chemical Dependency; Certificate for Licensure in Chemical Dependency
Licensure: School Social Work Preparation and Licensure
Department Website: http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/social_work

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS:
The social work profession is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals, groups, and communities. It addresses a variety of human needs in the context of complex personal and social situations, and promotes the positive use of resources. Social work settings include rural, suburban, and urban communities in public or private social service agencies, such as county social service agencies, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, residential youth programs, domestic abuse and sexual assault programs, adult day care, hospice, chemical dependency agencies, mental health organizations, family counseling programs, correctional programs, adoption and foster care agencies, and community outreach and social justice programs. The Social Work program emphasizes culturally responsive generalist social work practice and promotes an understanding of human interactions within the social environment. Content areas include social work values and ethics, diversity, promotion of social and economic justice, populations-at-risk, human behavior in the social environment, social welfare policy and services, social work practice, research, field placements, and an international perspective. Graduates of the program are prepared for entry-level social work practice and for graduate study. The Social Work program offers a number of special activities and opportunities, including the following:
B.S.W. Child Welfare Project — stipends
Chemical Dependency Certificate and Minor
Family Child Welfare Resource Center
Mexico Consortium — Social Work in a Latin American Context
Social Work Program Field Expeditions

As a result of the Social Work program’s accreditation by the Council of Social Work Education, graduates of the program are often eligible for advanced standing status in graduate social work programs AND are eligible to apply for social work licensure in Minnesota and other states. Successful application for social work licensure in Minnesota enables graduates to apply for school social work licensure in the state as well.

Chemical Dependency: The Social Work program offers both a minor and a certificate in Chemical Dependency. The 18-credit minor provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge in chemical dependency, but does not prepare students for educational eligibility for alcohol and Drug Counselor licensure (LADC) application. The certificate in Chemical Dependency requires a four-year degree, 270 hour classroom training, and an 880 hour internship required for LADC application.

Licensure Options:
Social Work (Minnesota Board of Social Work)
School Social Work (Minnesota Board of Teaching)
Alcohol and Drug Counselor (Minnesota Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy)

EMPLOYMENT AREAS:
The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" reports that social workers held about 607,300 jobs, in 2012. About 36 percent jobs were in healthcare and social assistance industries, and 41 percent were employed by government agencies. Although most social workers are employed in cities or suburbs, some work in rural areas. Employment by type of social worker, in 2010, included: Child, family and school social workers—276,760; Medical and public health social workers—131,730; Mental health and substance abuse social workers—110,010 and Social workers, all other—76,000. According to Bureau of Labor Statistics, “2012-2022 Occupation Outlook Handbook,” social work employment is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2022, with a 18% increase projection. Licensed social workers have a broad array of career options: County human services - child welfare, adults, elderly; Community
nonprofit organizations – youth, families, women, ethnic groups, elderly; Schools – special education, chemical dependency, mental health counseling; Medical – hospitals, hospice, clinics, long term care; Criminal justice – probation, juvenile centers, truancy intervention; Elderly – nursing homes, adult day centers, senior centers; Chemical dependency – in-patient, out-patient, half-way houses, prevention; Mental health centers – in-home, counseling; case management; Tribal social services; Social justice and action; Services for the developmentally disabled.

PROJECTED DEMAND FOR SOCIAL WORK MAJORS IN MINNESOTA:
MnCareers reports that the outlook for social workers is good, with 6470 social workers currently employed in Minnesota and a median salary of $28.20 per hour. Most positions are in public schools or county governments.

PROJECTED DEMAND FOR SOCIAL WORK MAJORS NATIONWIDE:
Focus™ reports that the national demand for social workers is expected to grow faster than average through 2022, with people established in their career generally earning between $25,640 and $50,450 per year. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, average salaries offered beginning social workers with a bachelor's degree were $35,900 per year in 2012. Employment growth will result from an aging population that will drive increasing demand for social services. Competition for jobs is expected in cities, but prospects should be good in rural areas. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, between 2010-2020 social work employment will witness a 25% increase in new positions, a rate faster than average for all other occupations.

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES:
There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Social Work graduates. Of the Bemidji State University 2012-2013 Social Work graduates, 90.5% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, furthering their education, unavailable, or had unknown status.

LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES: (This list only includes employment within one year of graduation.)

| Access North | Social Worker | Hibbing, MN |
| ARC Organization | Founder / Executive Director | Bemidji, MN |
| Assumption Community | Social Worker | Cold Spring, MN |
| Augsburg College | Intl Resident Advisor & TA | Cuernavaca, Mexico |
| Beltrami Area Services Collaborative | Home Room Coordinator | Bemidji, MN |
| Bemidji Area Program For Recovery | Substance Abuse LADC | Bemidji, MN |
| Bemidji School District | Early Childhood Social Worker | Bemidji, MN |
| Bethany Good Samaritan Village | Licensed Social Worker | Brainerd, MN |
| Blue Sky, Inc. | Employment Specialist | Detroit Lakes, MN |
| Cass County MN | Children's Mental Health Social Worker | Walker, MN |
| Cass County MN | County Agency Social Worker | Walker, MN |
| Center City Housing | Case Manager | Duluth, MN |
| Children Behavioral Services | Mental Health Behavioral Aide | Cohasset, MN |
| Children's Mental Health Services/REACH | Case Manager | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Community Activist/Red Lake Net News | Community Activist | Red Lake, MN |
| EBI Incorporated | Case Manager | Duluth, MN |
| Eveleth Senior Living Community | Social Worker | Eveleth, MN |
| Evergreen House Crisis Shelter | Off-Site Care Manager | Bemidji, MN |
| Evergreen House Crisis Shelter | Youth Counselor | Bemidji, MN |
| Golden Living Center | Social Worker, LSW | St. Louis Park, MN |
| Grand Village Nursing Home | Social Worker | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Grygla High School | School Social Worker | Grygla, MN |
| Heartland Kids | Mental Health Behavioral Aid | Hibbing, MN |
| Hennepin County | Case Manager | Golden Valley, MN |
| Innovative Property Management | Owner/Manager | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Inter-County Community Council | Family Service Coordinator | Oklee, MN |
| Intrepid USA | Independent Living Skills Worker | Golden Valley, MN |
| Isanti County | Child Protection/Adoption Worker | Cambridge, MN |
| Itasca County | Foster Care Licensor | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Itasca Medical Center | Social Work Case Aide | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Jourdain/Perpich Extended Care Center | Social Services Director | Red Lake, MN |
Koochiching County Community Services  Social Worker  International Falls, MN
Lac qui Parle Valley High School  School Social Worker  Madison, MN
Lake of the Woods County Social Services  School Social Worker  Baudette, MN
Laporte School  Family Preservation Case Manager  Laporte, MN
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  Social Worker  Cass Lake, MN
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Human Services  Case Manager  Cass Lake, MN
Leech Lake Child Protection  Social Worker  Cass Lake, MN
Leech Lake Child Protection Services  Social Worker  Cass Lake, MN
Leech Lake Women's Services  Licensed Social Worker  Cass Lake, MN
Leisure Hills Health & Rehab  Director Support Professional  Grand Rapids, MN
Lutheran Social Services  Guardian  Bemidji, MN
Lutheran Social Services  Mental Health Practitioner  Sauk Rapids, MN
Lutheran Social Services  Youth Worker  Virginia, MN
McLeod Treatment Center  Counselor-Behavior Health  Hutchinson, MN
Meridian Services  Case Manager  Hopkins, MN
Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging  I & A Specialist  St. Paul, MN
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  Case Manager  Onamia, MN
Minnesota Valley Action Council  Family Resource Coordinator  Blue Earth, MN
Mower County  Social Worker  Austin, MN
Nexus  Case Manager  Onamia, MN
Non-Profit Valley Senior Services  Options Counselor  Fargo, ND
North Homes Children and Family Services  Adoption Case Manager  Bemidji, MN
North Homes, Inc.  Case Coordinator  Bemidji, MN
North Homes, Inc.  Mental Health Practitioner  Perham, MN
Northern Connections Inc.  Licensed Social Worker  Walker, MN
Northern Pines Mental Health Center  In-Home Skills Worker  Grand Rapids, MN
Northland Recovery Center  Counselor  Crookston, MN
Northwest Mental Health Center, Inc.  Community Mental Health Specialist  Crookston, MN
Northwest Minnesota Juvenile Center  Child Care Worker  Bemidji, MN
Northwestern Mental Health Center  School Based Practitioner  Crookston, MN
Northwood Children's Services  Counselor-EBD Children  Duluth, MN
Options  Information and Referral Specialist  East Grand Forks, MN
Ottertail County  Social Worker  Fergus Falls, MN
Outreach Services of MN  SSI Advocate  Minneapolis, MN
PATH  Family Outreach Facilitator  Perham, MN
People Incorporated  Crisis/Mental Health Worker  St. Paul, MN
Permanent Family Resource Center  Adoption Worker  Fergus Falls, MN
Pine River DAC  Job Coach  Pine River, MN
Pine River Group Home  Resident Counselor  Pine River, MN
Planned Parenthood  Program Manager  Brainerd, MN
Port Group Homes  Primary Counselor  Brainerd, MN
Range Mental Health  Mental Health Practitioner  Virginia, MN
Red Lake Family and Children Services  Case Manager  Red Lake, MN
Riverplace Counseling Center  Social Worker  Anoka, MN
Rochester School District  School Readiness Family Advocate  Rochester, MN
Rule 36  Program Director  Bemidji, MN
Runestone Area Education District  School Social Worker  Alexandria, MN
Rural MN CEP  Job Counselor  Bemidji, MN
Sanford Health  Medical Social Worker  Moorhead, MN
Sanford Health  Social Worker  Bemidji, MN
Sanford Neilson Place  Licensed Social Worker  Brainerd, MN
Self Employed  LADC  Roseville, MN
Senior Housing Partners  Housing Counselor  New York Mills, MN
Share House Stepping Stone  LADC,LSW Counselor  Bemidji, MN
Social Security Administration  Claims Representative  Bemidji, MN
Spruce Wood Apartments  Mental Health Counselor  St. Cloud, MN
St. Cloud Children's Home  Youth Counselor II  Shakopee, MN
St. Gertrude's Health & Rehab Center  Social Worker/Cass Manager  Hibbing, MN
St. Louis County  Social Worker  Winsted, MN
St. Mary's Care Center  Social Service Director  Winsted, MN
St. William's Living Center  Social Services Director  Parkers Prairie, MN
State of Minnesota  Human Service Technician  Biwabik, MN
Stellher Counseling Services  Suicide Prevention  Bemidji, MN
Stellher Counseling Services  Counselor  Bemidji, MN
TBI Residential & Community Services  Behavioral Aide  Duluth, MN
Tomorrow's Bread Today  Social Worker  Houston, TX
Transformation House  LADC  Fridley, MN
Tri-County Community Corrections  Probation Agent  Crookston, MN
Upper Mississippi Mental Health  Social Worker  Bemidji, MN
Upper Mississippi Mental Health Center  Chemical Dependency Counselor  Bemidji, MN
Volunteers of America  Residential Youth Counselor  Minneapolis, MN
WACOSA  Training Specialist  St. Cloud, MN
White Earth Child Protection  Social Worker  Mahnomen, MN
White Earth Tribal Nation  Mental Health Case Manager  Bemidji, MN
Woodland Hills  Senior Counselor  Duluth, MN
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch  Mental Health Worker  Billings, MT
Zumbro House Inc.  Lead Counselor  Minneapolis, MN
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center  Alcohol and Drug Counselor  Rochester, MN

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:

Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN  University of Denver, Denver, CO
Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI  University of Minnesota-Duluth, Duluth, MN
St. Catherine University, Winsted, MN  University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND
St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN  University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

Note 1: Some of the above job/career titles require advanced degrees or specialized training.
Note 2: Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.
Note 3: Personal Competencies: it is also recommended that individuals be competent in a variety of communication methods, and computer skills are a must.

Bibliography:
FOCUS II. Career Dimensions Incorporated, Manchester, NH (2015)

For more information, please contact the Career Services Office in Sattgast 207 or call us at 218-755-2038 or toll free at 800-657-3726.
For more job listings please visit:

http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/services/career/job_search/jobs/