

Career Outlook: Social Work

Social Work Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

Major: Social Work (B.S.) **Minor:** Substance and Behavior Addictions

Certificate: Alcohol and Drug Counselor; School Social Work Preparation and Licensure

Department Website: http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/social_work

EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports that social workers held about 707,400 jobs in 2018. Although most social workers are employed in cities or suburbs, some work in rural areas. Employment by type of social worker, in 2018, included: Child, family and school social workers—339,800; and Mental health and substance abuse social workers—125,200. 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.

OOH reports that the national demand for social workers is expected to grow 11% (much faster than average) through 2028, with people established in their career generally earning between \$30,750 and \$81,400 per year. The median pay for 2018 was \$49,470 per year.

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES:

There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Social Work graduates. Of the 41 Bemidji State University 2017-2018 Social Work graduates, 92% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. Of the three 2017-2018 graduates with the Alcohol & Drug Counselor Occupational Certificate, 100% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students not seeking employment, furthering their education, unavailable, or had unknown status.

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

Barron County Health and Human Services	Children, Youth, & Family Social Worker	Barron, WI
Chippewa County Family Services	Child Protective Services Social Worker	Montevideo, MN
Frazee-Vergas Public Schools	Truancy Coach/Indian Education Coordinator	Frazee, MN
Lakes Counseling Center	Addiction Counselor	Detroit Lakes, MN
Leech Lake Child Welfare	Intake Assessment/Case Manager	Cass Lake, MN
North Homes, Inc.	ARMHS Practitioner	Bemidji, MN
Northwood Children's Services	Youth Counselor	Duluth, MN
Range Transitional Housing	Case Manager	Virginia, MN
St. Cloud Hospital	Social Worker	St. Cloud, MN
Valhalla Place	Alcohol and Drug Counselor	Woodbury, MN
Window Victim Services	Victim Advocate	Hinkley, MN

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

- Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN
- Moorhead State University, Moorhead, MN
- Northeastern University, Boston, MA
- St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN
- University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN
- University of North Dakota (x2), Grand Forks, ND
- University of the Southwest, Hobbs, NM
- Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, UT

*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.

Bibliography:

- [Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2017-2018](#). Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2020)
- [Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2019-2020](#). Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2020)
- [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#). U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2019)

For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu

For more job listings please visit:



<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>



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