Career Outlook: Social Work

Social Work Programs Available at Bemidji State University:


Department Website: https://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/social-work/

EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:
The “Occupational Outlook Handbook” (OOH) reports that social workers held about 708,100 jobs in 2021. Employment by type of social worker, in 2021, included: child, family and school social workers—349,800; healthcare social workers--179,500 and mental health and substance abuse social workers—119,800. 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 people with disabilities.

OOH reports that the national demand for social workers is expected to grow 9% (faster than average) through 2031, with people established in their career generally earning between $36,520 and $82,840 per year. The median pay for 2021 was $50,390 per year.

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES:
There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Social Work graduates. Of the 33 Bemidji State University 2020-2021 Social Work graduates, 100% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. Of the three 2020-2021 graduates with the Addictions 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.)

Comm. Support SRV - Hope House  Certified Peer Specialist I  Bemidji, MN
Evergreen Youth & Family Services  Victim Advocate  Bemidji, MN
Evergreen Youth & Family Services  Independent Living Skills Case Manager  Bemidji, MN
Grafton Public Schools  School Social Worker  Grafton, MN
Hazelden Betty Ford  Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor  Center City, MN
Inter County Community Council  Social Worker  Oklee, MN
Lac Qui Parle County Family Services  Adult Services Social Worker  Madison, MN
Leech Lake Child Welfare  Social Worker  Cass Lake, MN
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota  House Coordinator  Bemidji, MN
Lutheran Social Services  Social Worker  Walker, MN
Ombimindwaa Gidinawemaaganinaadog Social Worker  Red Lake, MN
Red Lake Child and Family Services  Social Worker  Red Lake, MN

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

Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN  University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN  Winona State University, Winona, MN
St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN  Winona State University-Rochester Center, Rochester, MN
University of Minnesota-Duluth, Duluth, MN

*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 2020-2021, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)
Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

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

For more job listings please visit: Handshake

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

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