

The Degree of Master of Social Work (Applied) (MSW(App) – 240 points)

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations for the University.

1. Version

- (a) These Regulations came into force on 1 January 2025.
- (b) This degree was first offered in 2003.

2. Variations

In exceptional circumstances the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate may approve a personal programme of study which does not conform to these Regulations.

3. The structure of the qualification

A student must be credited with the courses listed in Schedule C to these Regulations.

- (a) Part I comprises five courses: SOWK611, 612, 614, 615, and 640. SOWK614 and SOWK615 must be taken concurrently. Part I must be completed before the student can be credited with any course in Part II, unless special approval is given by the Kairuruku Hōtaka | Programme Coordinator.
- (b) Part II comprises three courses: SOWK671, 672, and 673. SOWK671, 672 and 673 must be taken concurrently.

4. Admission to the qualification

- (a) A student for the Master of Social Work (Applied), before enrolling in a programme of study for the degree, must have either:
 - i. qualified for a Bachelor's degree in a relevant subject, with a B Grade Point Average or above in their 300-level courses and satisfied the Kaihautū Tauwhiro Hapori | Programme Director, Social Work and Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate, that they have sufficient background to benefit from the course; and either
 - a. completed relevant undergraduate courses preferably in the fields of social research and health science; or
 - b. completed a qualifying programme prescribed by the Kairuruku Hōtaka | Programme Coordinator and approved by the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate of a standard equivalent to the prerequisite courses; or
 - c. demonstrated relevant professional experience; or
 - ii. been admitted under the Regulations for admission with Academic Equivalent Standing as entitled to enrol for the Degree of Master of Social Work (Applied); and
 - iii. been approved as a student for the degree by the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate.
- (b) A student must also meet criteria in relation to suitability including:
 - i. criteria identified in the MSW (Applied) application documentation;
 - ii. the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board's "Entitlement to Registration Fit and Proper Person Policy Statement"; and
 - iii. the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics; and
 - iv. the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board Code of Conduct, and
 - v. a satisfactory Police vetting; and
 - vi. any such other processes deemed necessary by the Kaihautū Tauwhiro Hapori | Programme Director, Social Work to determine suitability e.g., the meeting of the requirements stipulated in the Children's Act 2014.
- (c) Prior to being recommended to agencies for fieldwork placement for SOWK671 and 672, a student must also:
 - i. provide attestations as to character and suitability for beginning practice; and
 - ii. agree to practice in accordance with and be bound by the Code of Ethics of the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers (Inc.) and the Code of Conduct of the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board, and
 - iii. meet any additional criteria for fieldwork acceptance imposed by the relevant Social Service agency.
- (d) A student for whom English or Māori or New Zealand Sign is not their first language, must provide evidence of their English language ability as follows:

- i. IELTS (Academic) 6.5, with no individual score below 6.5. Preference will be given to students with a score of 7; or
 - ii. An alternative English language assessment, approved by the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate.
 - iii. At least two years of successful study in a New Zealand secondary school, with at least ten Level 2 NCEA credits in Literacy (five reading and five writing) or equivalent.
- (e) Unless an exemption is granted by the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate, a student who has already obtained a professional qualification in social work that included fieldwork may not enrol in the Master of Social Work (Applied).

5. Subjects

The subject for this qualification is Social Work.

6. Time limits

- (a) The time limit for a full-time student is 24 months.
- (b) The time limit for a part-time student is 6 years from the first year of enrolment.
- (c) A part-time programme must consist of such courses as determined by the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate. SOWK614 and 615 must be completed in the year immediately prior to enrolment in SOWK671.

7. Transfers of credit, substitutions and cross-credits

This qualification adheres to the Credit Recognition and Transfer Regulations, with no additional stipulations.

8. Progression

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University, with the following stipulations:

- (a) Application for admission to SOWK671, SOWK672 and SOWK673 must be made in the previous year by 30 September. A student must have been accepted as a student by the Kaihautū Tauwhiro Hapori | Programme Director, Social Work following a review of application materials, including a repeat request for disclosure of information to the Licensing and Vetting Service Centre, Police National Headquarters.
- (b) A student enrolled in any course in the degree whose circumstances change in regard to character or suitability must inform the Master of Social Work (Applied) Coordinator immediately. Changes in circumstances, whether notified by the student or others, may result in the student being required to undergo a reassessment of suitability, as defined by Regulation 4(b) above, arranged by the Kaihautū Tauwhiro Hapori | Programme Director, Social Work.
- (c) A student who fails up to 30 points (other than SOWK671 or 672) for the Master of Social Work (Applied) degree, may, with the permission of the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate, repeat that course or courses, or substitute another course or courses of equal weight.
- (d) A student who fails more than 30 points will be withdrawn from the qualification.
- (e) A student who fails a Fieldwork Practicum (SOWK671 or 672), under exceptional circumstances may, with the permission of the Kaihautū Tauwhiro Hapori | Programme Director, Social Work and the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate, repeat that course once only. If the course is failed a second time, the student will be withdrawn from the qualification.

9. Honours, Distinction and Merit

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University and may be awarded with Distinction or Merit, with the following stipulations:

- (a) Distinction and Merit are awarded for academic achievement, measured by weighted GPA, 40% on the first-year courses for the degree (SOWK611, 612, 614, 615, 640), and 60% on the second-year 600-level courses for the degree (SOWK671, 672, 673). Only the grade for the first attempt at a course will be considered in the calculation.
- (b) Distinction or Merit will be awarded as per the GPA requirements in the General Conditions for Credit Regulations. Distinction will be awarded where the GPA is equal to or greater than 7.0, and Merit will be awarded where the GPA is from 5.50 to 6.99. Students who complete the degree with a GPA from 1.00 to 5.49 will be awarded with a Pass.

- (c) To be eligible for Distinction or Merit a student must complete all courses for the MSW (Applied) in no more than 6 years of study.

10. Exit and Upgrade Pathways to other Qualifications

- (a) There are no advancing qualifications for this degree.
- (b) A student who has not met the requirements for the Master of Social Work (Applied) may apply to the Amo Matua, Te Kaupeka Oranga | Executive Dean of Health or delegate to be admitted to the Postgraduate Certificate in Health or the Postgraduate Diploma in Health and have their credits transferred to that qualification.

Schedule C: Compulsory Courses for the Degree of Master of Social Work (Applied)

For full course information, go to courseinfo.canterbury.ac.nz

The MSW (Applied) is a distance programme taught by a combination of distance, and on-campus block courses which a student is required to attend. A student should refer to the department and course materials for further information on these requirements. For SOWK671 and 672, a student is required to undertake assessed fieldwork practice under the supervision of approved Fieldwork Educators, and as determined by the Fieldwork Coordinator.

Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Pts	2025	Location	P/C/R/RP/EQ
SOWK611	Mental Health	15	S2	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. R: SOWK303
SOWK612	Tino Rangatiratanga and Mana Motuhake in Practice	15	S1	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. R: SOWK512
SOWK614	Social Work Theory, Research and Practice	30	W	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. C: SOWK615. For students undertaking part-time study, SOWK614, together with SOWK615, must be completed in the last two years of study. R: SOWK514/SOWK301
SOWK615	Social Work Principles and Skills	30	W	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. R: SOWK308; SOWK515
SOWK640	Practice research for social work	30	W	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. C: SOWK612, SOWK614, SOWK615, SOWK611 R: SOWK621/HSRV421; SOWK617
SOWK671	Field Education 1	45	A	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. C: SOWK673 R: SOWK471, SOWK571
			S1	Distance Learning	
SOWK672	Field Education 2	45	A	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. C: SOWK673 R: SOWK472 and SOWK572
			S2	Distance Learning	
SOWK673	Practice Research Integration	30	W	Distance Learning	P: Subject to approval of the Associate Dean - Academic. C: SOWK671, SOWK672 R: SOWK490, SOWK624, SOWK670