





What you can do with your Social Work major




Social work majors study social welfare systems with the goal of improving human and community well-being. Your degree prepares you for a career in a variety of industries and qualifies you for any number of roles in social work or other related fields. You may pursue jobs in locations such as hospitals, schools, mental health clinics, private practices, or corporations. Most organizations in the public and private sector that provide a community service or support individuals and families in an emotional capacity employ professionals with training in social work. Social work fields also vary and can include gerontology, education, health care, occupational assistance and veteran care.

According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), social work careers are projected to grow 9% from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations. This growth is attributed to changes in life expectancy, an aging population, and the need to offer relief to struggling people and groups. Increasing need will be found in providing advocacy and/or crisis response in the following areas: mental health and substance abuse, geriatrics, veterans affairs, health care, and child welfare.

Essential Skills & Characteristics to develop and highlight:

-  Critical thinking
-  Compassionate
-  Attention to detail and organization
-  Communication and interpersonal skills

-  Leadership
-  Open-minded
-  Well-rounded researcher
-  Collaborative

How To Get Started:

- [Assess](#) your personal strengths & preferences
- [Research opportunities](#): online/in-person
- [Expand your social work](#) network and professional brand
- Get an [internship/relevant](#) work experience
- [Join a professional social work organization](#)
- [Connect with professionals](#) through informational interviews & job shadowing

Chart Your Path Forward with the [Career Success Center](#)

[Activate Your Handshake Account](#)

for events, coaching appointments and connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking & more!
www.wcsu.edu/handshake

[Explore Career Communities](#)

to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your Social Work major into success.

[Get Career & Internship Advising](#)

from the Career Success Center to make a plan, whether you're a first-year student or about to graduate

Put your Social Work major to **WORK**

Common Alumni Job Titles:

- Health Educator
- Rehab Counselor
- Probation Officer
- Social Service Manager
- Health Worker
- Psychologist
- Social Service Asst.
- Correctional Disorder Counselor
- School Counselor

Employers of Social Work Majors:

- Waterbury Public Schools
- Mental Health CT, Inc.
- New Milford Public Schools
- Bridgeport Hospital
- Department of Children and Families
- WCSU
- Family & Children's Aid
- Ability Beyond
- Cartus
- Danbury Hospital

Recent Social Work Alumni

Employment Sector

- 18 % Health Care and Social Assistance
- 12 % Retail Trade
- 12 % Educational Services
- 11 % Professional, Scientific and Tech Services
- 10 % Accommodations and Food Services
- 6 % Finance and Insurance
- 5 % Administrative and Support
- 5 % Information

Live & Work

- 64 % Connecticut
- 18 % Middle Atlantic
- 9 % South Atlantic
- 4 % New England Balance
- 2 % Pacific
- 2 % Western South Central
- 1 % Eastern North Central
- 1 % Mountain



[Shelby Davis](#)

B.A. in Social Work, Class of 2008

Executive Director for City Youth Theater in Waterbury and a counselor for Waterbury public schools

"Western Connecticut State University built a foundation for my leadership. Keep going - stick to your dreams, your goals, your vision. The road may be long, but you will get there."

Informational & Job Websites

- <https://wcsu.joinhandshake.com/login>
- <http://www.abecsw.org/>
- <http://www.acswa.org/>
- <http://www.learnhowtobecome.org/social-worker/>
- <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3121&q=389604>
- <http://www.naswdc.org/>
- <http://www.clinicalsocialworkassociation.org/>
- <http://www.bu.edu/cader/>
- <http://www.iaswg.org/>
- <http://www.cswe.org/>
- <https://collegegrad.com/careers/social-workers>
- <https://www.socialworkguide.org/jobs/#s=1>
- <https://psychologyjobs.com/social-work-jobs/>
- <http://www1.salary.com/Social-Worker-BSW-Salary.html>



[Gabrielle Book](#)

B.A. in Social Work, Class of 2017

Care Coordination at Danbury Hospital

"Being a Social Work student at WCSU allowed me to build a strong foundation on my verbal, written and organizational skills that have allowed me to progress in my career and build lasting relationships in both my professional and personal life. I now work with two other WCSU Social Work alums at Danbury Hospital!"

Career Communities for Social Work Majors

The Career Success Center has seven Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs.

Here are a few suggestions on where Social Work majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit our website at www.wcsu.edu/careersuccess/career-communities/ to view more.

- [Healthcare, Wellness and Life Sciences](#)
- [Education and Human Services](#)
- [Government, Public Policy, Law and Non-Profits](#)