



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made between the University of Tennessee-Knoxville on behalf of its College of Social Work Online BSSW Program ("UTK CSW") and Columbia State Community College (CoSCC), is effective on August 1, 2024.

The purpose of this MOU is to implement additional transfer admission pathways for CoSCC students who seek admission to UTK CSW through Guaranteed Admission or Priority Admission beginning with the fall 2025 application cycle. Guaranteed Admission is designed to provide a guaranteed admission pathway for CoSCC students desiring a Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW) degree in the Online BSSW Program (UTK CSW). CoSCC students who do not qualify for Guaranteed Admission may qualify for Priority Admission. Priority Admission is another transfer admission pathway, whereby CoSCC students, who meet qualifications, would be considered prior to those CoSCC students seeking admission through the regular admission process. The qualifications for Guaranteed Admission and Priority Admission are outlined below.

Students can apply to the UTK CSW at <https://admissions.utk.edu/apply/>

Guaranteed Admission into the Online BSSW Program (UTK CSW)

- To qualify for Guaranteed Admission to UTK CSW, a student must:
 - Receive an Associate of Science (A.S.) or Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree in Social Work from CoSCC; AND
 - Earn a grade of "C" or higher in SWRK 2010: Introduction to Social Work AND SOCI: 1040 Social Problems OR any Social Work elective (e.g., SWRK 2030: Introduction to Social Welfare and Policy), as reflected on the Tennessee Transfer Pathway for Social Work; AND
 - Earn a minimum of 60 transferable credit hours; AND
 - Achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher by the time of application to UTK CSW, and must maintain that 3.5 or higher average until the time of matriculation at UTK CSW; AND
 - Submit a completed application for admission, including well-written responses to the required essay questions within the application, by no later than February 1st of the same year seeking fall entry.

Priority Admission into the Online BSSW Program (UTK CSW)

- To qualify for Priority Admission to UTK CSW, a student must:
 - Receive an Associate of Science (A.S.) or Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree in Social Work from CoSCC; AND
 - Earn a minimum of 60 transferable credit hours; AND
 - Earn a grade of "C" or higher in SWRK 2010: Introduction to Social Work AND SOCI: 1040 Social Problems OR any Social Work elective (e.g., SWRK 2030: Introduction to Social Welfare and Policy), as reflected on the Tennessee Transfer Pathway for Social Work; AND

- Achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher by the time of application to UTK CSW, and must maintain that 3.0 or higher average until the time of matriculation at UTK CSW; AND
- Submit a completed application for admission, including well-written responses to the required essay questions within the application by no later than May 1st of the same year seeking fall entry.

UTK CSW agrees to the following:

1. UTK CSW provides the Guaranteed Admission and Priority Admission opportunities for qualified students who meet the requirements in this MOU. Guaranteed Admission for qualified students may be limited based on program capacity.
2. Students denied admission into the Guaranteed or Priority admission pathway may be considered for admission into the Online BSSW Program (UTK CSW) or Knoxville campus BSSW program through the regular application review process.
3. Admitted students are highly encouraged to apply for College of Social Work scholarships and university scholarships that are made available specifically for transfer students. Admitted students with at least a 3.25 calculated UT GPA are automatically awarded the Volunteer Transfer Scholarship up to \$5,000 each year over two years. More information about this scholarship and others can be found online at <https://onestop.utk.edu/scholarships/transfers/> Additionally, UTK CSW will communicate all current scholarship opportunities with CoSCC on an on-going basis.
4. UTK CSW will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law.
5. Students wishing to transfer credits to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville must meet the admissions requirements for the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the parties acknowledge and agree that the University of Tennessee, Knoxville reserves the right to reject any such student's admission to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in accordance with its standard policies and procedures. These students must also provide an official transcript of courses completed. Students must meet the admissions criteria of their selected program, apply to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and be admitted. If admitted, the students shall become subject to all the University of Tennessee, Knoxville policies, procedures and rules.

CoSCC agrees to the following:

1. CoSCC will communicate and recommend qualified students, as defined in this MOU, to consider application for the Guaranteed Admission or Priority Admission opportunities.
2. As needed, CoSCC will encourage interested students to engage with any relevant on-campus student/academic support services (e.g., writing centers) for assistance with their writing on the essay portions of the UTK CSW application for admission.

Term:

1. This MOU has a term of three years from the Effective Date. The MOU will be reviewed annually and changes or revisions necessary will be made by mutual agreement of all parties.

Term Extension and Termination:

1. The MOU may be extended or amended only by written agreement authorized officials of the parties. The MOU may be terminated by either party for any reason or no reason with a minimum of 90 days' notice, in writing, of the termination date.