The Social Work, Social Policy, and Social Administration (SW) Advanced Standing Master’s program is designed for exceptional students who have graduated from an accredited baccalaureate social work (BSW) program within the past five years.

REQUIREMENTS
The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and SSA’s criteria for admission to the master’s program must include an earned baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association. Baccalaureate social work graduates entering master’s social work programs are not to repeat what has been achieved in their baccalaureate social work programs.

CURRICULUM
Enrollment in this program begins in the Summer quarter. Students register for four quarters of full-time study in their chosen concentration, which includes 12 advanced courses and 640 hours of field placement for Clinical Practice students and 496 for Social Administration students. Field placements can be completed during the academic year with a potential summer start. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in SSA’s Programs of Study.

FIELD EDUCATION
The field component of the curriculum is designed to help students develop knowledge and skills to help those in need and to bring about effective social change.

Fieldwork in the Advanced Standing program is designed to build on students’ competence in direct social work practice (experience in assessment, intervention, and evaluation). Under the guidance of an experienced supervisor, students are expected to understand and use more than one practice approach to prepare them for broad-based professional practice with a range of clients, problems, and environmental situations.

Students in the clinical concentration develop more advanced clinical knowledge and competence in psychosocial assessment and intervention with individuals, couples, families and groups. Students in the social administration concentration undertake internships that offer experiences to work with professionals who occupy major positions in government, community agencies, and related social welfare organizations.
FINANCIAL AID
APPLICATION PROCEDURES
In order to be considered for financial aid (including Stafford loans, University loans, work-study, and need-based scholarships) students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible after October 1.

SSA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Each year, SSA provides more than $4 million to incoming students in scholarships. Approximately 95% of our students receive scholarship aid based on merit and need. In addition to scholarship funds, students may be eligible for federal financial assistance through loans and work-study. Returning students reapply for SSA scholarships each year, with 99% receiving a renewal.

Career Opportunities:
SSA alumni are at the forefront of social work. With strong problem solving, multidisciplinary, and interpersonal skills, SSA alumni are recognized far and wide for their first-rate professional acumen and training; they are often quickly called upon to take on leadership roles, given who they are and where they have trained. Our alumni work in a variety of practice and policy settings, including government, research centers, schools, hospitals, and nonprofit agencies and programs. And SSA alumni can access a network of over 8,000 alumni in all 50 states and in 38 countries.

The University of Chicago
School of Social Service Administration

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