The University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work is one of the top-ranked schools of social work in the United States. Founded in 1938, it was the first school in the country to offer a program in community organization and one of the first to offer a specialization in child welfare.

The school’s three degree programs—Bachelor of Arts in Social Work, Master of Social Work, and Doctor of Philosophy—are taught by one of the most diverse faculties at the University and instill in students a commitment to social and economic justice.

The School of Social Work has a threefold mission of education, research, and service that matches a long tradition of excellence upheld by the University.

Standard of Excellence

♦ Nationally, the School is ranked 11th (top 5%) among 218 accredited graduate schools of social work (U.S. News and World Report, 2012).

♦ The School of Social Work, founded in 1938, has over 10,000 alumni; the school graduated 302 students this past year.

♦ Offers BASW, MSW and PhD degrees.

♦ Home to the Center on Race and Social Problems.

♦ Two MSW Concentrations: Direct Practice with Individuals, Families, and Small Groups (Direct Practice) and Community Organization and Social Administration (COSA).

♦ First program of Community Organization in the country.

♦ Second largest Child Welfare training program in the country.

♦ Several joint Masters degrees with other University programs, including the School of Public Health, School of Public and International Affairs and others, as well as a MSW/JD with the Law School.


♦ Choice of more than 500 field work opportunities.
Field Placements
- SSW students provide about 300,000 hours, collectively, of field placement hours to services agencies and organizations in the 13-county area concentrated around the University of Pittsburgh.
- The School of Social Work can estimate the cost benefit of students’ work to the community as over $7.5 million annually.

Center on Race and Social Problems:
- The Center on Race and Social Problems is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2012.
- The Center offers a Lecture Series, Summer Institutes, the journal *Race and Social Problems*, and pilot study funding.
- Hosted the national conference: “Race in America: Restructuring Inequality,” drawing over 1,200 attendees.

Transforming Careers
- National leaders in social work education and practice
- Doctoral graduates go on to become deans, tenured faculty, and some of the country’s leading researchers
- Comprehensive professional development and continuing education program available to all students, faculty, staff and graduates
- The Office of Career Services has face-to-face contact with 100% of students in their first year.
- The Office offers ongoing workshops and one-on-one career development meetings that are available to both students and alumni at no cost.
- 86% of graduates secure social work employment within six months of graduation; nearly 100% within a year.

Demographics
- TOTAL STUDENTS: 671
  - 84% female, 15% male
  - Students of color make up 23% of the graduate student body.
  - SSW students are international, representing the countries of: China, South Korea, Jamaica, Uganda, Chile and more.

Financial Assistance
- Over two-thirds of full time graduate students receive financial assistance through the School.
- Full tuition remission and stipends for living expenses are available for PhD students.

Research and Publications
- The SSW journal publication rate is 3rd among the top 10-benchmark schools and is ranked 1st in number of presentations given at the two major national conferences.
- The SSW has externally funded projects totaling approximately $28 million.
- Faculty with a wide range of expertise in many topics including: mental illness, substance abuse, health behavior interventions, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, child welfare, aging, grief and loss, community practice, race and gender issues, and juvenile justice.