The Council on Social Work Education, CSWE, accredits the **University of Pittsburgh**, MSW program.

The School of Social Work **Home & School Visitor/School Social Worker, HSV/SSW, certificate** prepares you to work in a Pennsylvania k-12 school.

Since the 1930’s, the School of Social Work has offered a DP Home and School Visitor certificate. The program was started by pioneering social work practitioner and educator Marion Hathway. The DP H&SV/SSW is an inter-professional Educational Specialist certificate, operated jointly with University of Pittsburgh School of Education and by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, intended for students who plan to deliver social work services in elementary or secondary schools. The DP H&SV/SSW certificate program is designed to enhance professional competency in the development and delivery of high quality social work services to diverse student populations in both public and private elementary and secondary schools.

The certificate program is organized around the Direct Practice specialization and offers students the opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and skills via courses taken in the Schools of Social Work and Education and a field placement in an educational setting.

### Here is the process to obtain the certificate(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HSV Requirements</th>
<th>SSW Requirements</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are three entry points for this certification:</td>
<td>There are two entry points for this certification:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Certification earned while earning the MSW</td>
<td>1. Certification earned while earning the MSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Certification earned post-MSW</td>
<td>2. Certification earned post-MSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Certification earned <strong>without</strong> an MSW</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete Pitt coursework</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Class Schedules, Curriculum Guides, and Forms</td>
<td>School of Social Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You have met Pitt requirements for this Pitt certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To earn the <strong>PA state recognized</strong> HSV Certificate</th>
<th>To earn the <strong>PA state recognized</strong> SSW Certificate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take &amp; pass PA Licensed Social Worker, LSW, exam or the Praxis exam</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

After coursework & LSW/LCSW for social workers or the Praxis exam for non-social workers has been successfully completed, the PDE checklist with supporting documents is submitted to the HSV Director to earn the PA state credential, [View the School of Social Work/Pennsylvania Department of Education Certification Checklist](https://www.aapsw.org/).

|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
The Home and School Visitor involves the science or art of the knowledge and competence required in addressing the provision of home and school visitor services for all students in grades PK-12.

- Engage in social case work;
- Investigate family problems;
- Assist staff in collaborating with community resource providers and social work agencies;
- May serve as attendance officer,
- Provide for students’ needs through appropriate referral

The School Social Worker provides schools with the knowledge and competence required to provide school social work services for all students in grades PK-12 with a focus on preventative and/or problem-solving tools.

- Maintain LSW or LCSW and Maintain Act 48

Available to MSW students, & non social workers in a related graduate field (determined by the Pitt HSV/SSW Faculty Coordinator)

- Maintain LSW or LCSW and Maintain Act 48

Available only to MSW students

- Post grads can apply including non social workers in a related graduate field (determined by the HSV/SSW Faculty Coordinator)

Complete the PDE Certification: Checklist provides direction.

**TIMS** Educational Specialist I (31) - Home and School Visitor k-12th (1850) View the School of Social Work/Pennsylvania Department of Education Certification Checklist.

**At a quick glance HSV provide (but not limited to) the following services**

- Engage in social case work;
- Investigate family problems;
- Assist staff in collaborating with community resource providers and social work agencies;
- May serve as attendance officer,
- Provide for students’ needs through appropriate referral

**At a quick glance SSW provide (but not limited to) the following services**

- Conduct formal and informal assessments of student
- Develop intervention plans
- Assist in the planning of therapeutic, remedial, and behavioral modification activities
- Provide crisis and emergency assistance
- Provide direct interventions to students, including individual and group therapy, counseling, and educational and informational programs.
- Provide supportive casework to children and their families, including parent/caregiver education and self-advocacy.
- Work with individuals, groups, and organizations to develop programs and systems that promote student welfare and achievement.

Complete the PDF: Step by Step Guide. Educational Specialist I – School Social Worker PK-12 (1851) Sign on to your TIMS account at https://www.mypdeapps.pa.gov/wfTIMS.aspx

If you do not know your password for TIMS contact TIMS Login Helpline at 1-877-328-0995

Post MSW grads can apply

11/6/23