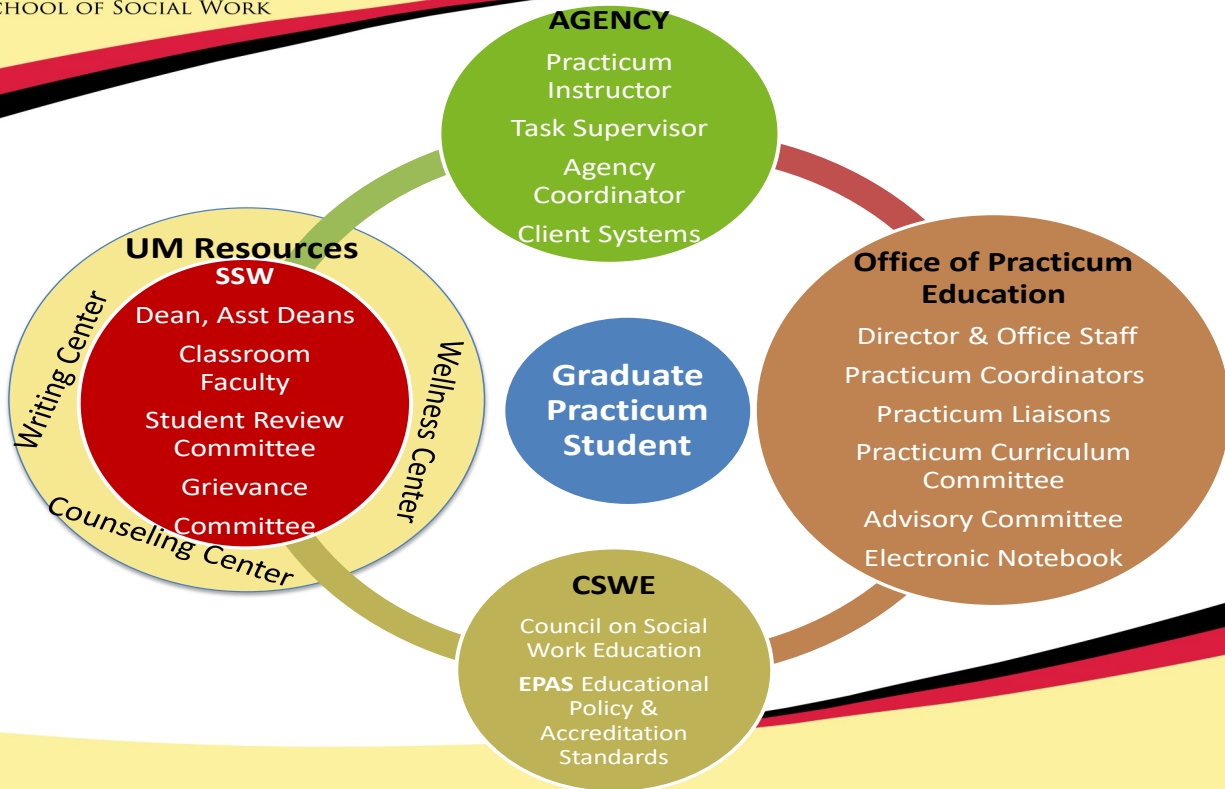


PRACTICUM EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2026-2027



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



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Helpful LINKS

Frequently Asked Questions About Practicum: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/practicum/faqs/>

Office of Practicum Education: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/practicum/>

Practicum Calendar: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/media/ssw/practicum-education/2026-2027-Practicum-Calendar.pdf>

Wellness "Hub" /Center: www.umaryland.edu/wellness

Student Counseling Center: Baltimore

www.umaryland.edu/counseling / **Shady Grove**

<https://shadygrove.umd.edu/student-services/center-for-counseling-and-consultation>

Writing Center : www.umaryland.edu/writing

Practicum Education Practicum is a COURSE

You are enrolled in a Practicum course:

SOWK 635 (fall)/ 636 (spring) Foundation Practicum
SOWK 637 (fall) / 638 (spring) Foundation Seminar I
SWCL 794/ SWCL 795 (spring) Advanced Practicum Clinical
SWOA 794 /SWOA 795 (spring) Advanced Practicum LPSC

Assignments /Requirements include:

- 3 Process Recordings due EACH Semester (minimum) Foundation Practicum: 5 on individual/ clinical interventions and 1 on a Macro Activity; Advanced Practicum: all 6 in your specific Concentration (Clinical OR LPSC)
- 400 hours for Foundation Practicum and 600 hours for Advanced Practicum completed by following the Practicum Calendar (link above)
- Monthly Reports and Timesheets (submitted in the EPN due the 5th of each practicum month)

Definitions of Frequently Used Practicum Education Terms

Types of Practicums: Foundation and Advanced (Advanced Clinical or Advanced LPSC Leadership, Policy, Social Change). Advanced students may select an *extended schedule* in practicum to end of July; going 2 days per week instead of 3.

Practicum Coordinator: The person in the practicum education office who carefully assesses each practicum application, educational course of study, and learning needs then assigns each student a specific practicum placement. Contact them throughout the year if the liaison can't answer questions.

Practicum Instructor: Social Worker onsite at the agency who teaches students throughout the year at a practicum placement. Provides students with regular feedback, weekly supervision, review and comments on all paperwork; assign tasks, complete an assessment/ evaluation of progress at mid-semester and the end of each semester. All student activities at the agency fall under their supervision and social work license.

Task Supervisor: Some practicum sites use a Task Supervision Model of Practicum Education. The Task Supervisor is the agency staff member that is assigned to assist students in learning the activities in the learning agreement. The task supervisor carries the responsibility for the client system and "shares" various case activities with students.

Practicum Liaison: The person hired by UMB to monitor the student's progress in practicum; Connection between the practicum instructor, student and UMB. If issues arise, students, and/or practicum instructors may seek guidance from their liaison. They support the placement and review work submitted in the EN and issue grades for practicum.

EPN : Electronic Practicum Notebook: the online system through which students submit their assignments, receive feedback from their practicum instructors, and keep their liaison informed of their progress.

Competencies: Nine Social Work Competencies identify the essential skills and behaviors that encompasses and describe the essence of Professional Social Work Practice.

Behaviors: Observable actions that demonstrate an integration of knowledge, values, skills, cognitive and affective processes that comprise the competency.

Learning Agreement: The *educational plan* that is developed between the student and their practicum instructor and approved by the Practicum Liaison. It is a collaborative process that describes the specific activities, tasks, and assignments the student will perform to achieve competencies.

Student Assessment: Evaluation the practicum instructor completes at mid-semester and at the end of each semester to provide written feedback on student's progress on the development of behaviors for each competency.

Learning Activities: Learning activities are assignments/tasks that provide students with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their attainment of behaviors related to the 9 social work competencies.

CSWE: Council on Social Work Education

EPAS: Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards

NASW Code of Ethics: The guide for professional conduct of social workers. It includes: social work's core values, ethical principles, and specific ethical standards to guide social workers' conduct.

Social Work Competencies

1	Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2	Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice
3	Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice
4	Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
5	Engage in Policy Practice
6	Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
7	Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
8	Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
9	Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

PRACTICUM Rating Criteria and Definitions

Outstanding: Student CONSISTENTLY EXCEEDS expectations related to the identified behavior.

Proficient: Student CONSISTENTLY MEETS expectations related to the identified behavior.

Developing: Student GENERALLY MEETS expectations related to the identified behavior.

Needs Improvement: Student INCONSISTENTLY MEETS expectations related to the identified behavior.

Unsatisfactory: Despite being given opportunities, the student NEVER or RARELY MEETS expectations related to the identified behavior.

No Opportunity: Student did not have an opportunity to demonstrate the identified behavior.

Helpful Resources on the Practicum Education Website

- * Full *Practicum Education Calendar*
- * *Practicum Education Manual* containing important policies and expectations
- * *Syllabi for all Practicum Education Courses* (in manual)
- * *Student Practicum Orientation Handouts* (Note: required Practicum VIRTUAL Orientation: 8/25 OR 8/27) and Learning Lab for Foundation: 9/1 & 9/3

ALL Foundation and Advanced Students on **REGULAR** Schedule

Advanced Students on **EXTENDED** Schedule

For FULL Practicum Calendar go to: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/media/ssw/practicum-education/2026-2027-Practicum-Calendar.pdf>

9/8 Foundation AND Advanced Students Report To Practicum Agency

9/25 Learning Agreements Due To Faculty Liaisons

10/23 Practicum Instructors submit Mid-Semester Fall Student Assessment/Evaluation

12/7 Practicum Instructors submit Fall End of Semester Student Assessment/Evaluation

12/11 Last Day of Practicum Education For The Fall Semester—Winter break begins

9/8 Advanced Students Report To Practicum Agency

9/25 Learning Agreement Due To Faculty Liaison

11/13 Practicum Instructor submits Mid-Semester Fall Assessment/Eval

1/5 Fall Semester Resumes after winter break (12/14 to 1/4)

2/12 Practicum Instructor submits Fall Student Assessment/Evaluation

2/12 Fall Semester Ends For EXT Advanced Students

1/5 Spring Semester For Practicum Education Begins For Students

1/20 Deadline to Submit Applications-Current Students Registering For Practicum 2027-2028

2/12 Practicum Instructors submit Mid-Semester Spring Student Assessment/Evaluation

4/9 Last day of Spring Practicum for Foundation AND Advanced

4/9 Practicum Instructor submits Spring Semester Student Assessment /Evaluation

2/15 Spring Semester Begins For EXT Advanced Students

4/9 Practicum Instructor submits Mid-Semester Spring Assessment/Eval

7/2 Last Day of Practicum for Spring Semester

7/2 Practicum Instructor submits Spring Semester Assessment/Eval