

Application

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

What population group(s) are you interested in serving during your placement?

Have you ever traveled outside of the United States? If so, where?

Are you a U.S. citizen? _____

Do you have a U.S. passport? _____

Briefly describe your expectations for the program and what you would like to accomplish.

Please attach a copy of your resume and return this application to:

Dr. Cherry Short, CBE
Assistant Dean, Global & Community Initiatives
USC School of Social Work
Social Work Center, Room 201C
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0411
213.821.4223
cshort@usc.edu

United Kingdom Resources

Reed Health Care

The USC School of Social Work has made arrangements with UK-based Reed Health Care to identify and assist in securing practice placements in the UK for program participants. Reed Health Group is one of the largest and most successful recruitment, consultancy and management services within the health, social care and medical industries. It runs the largest regional network of any social care agency, with offices across the UK and internationally.

<http://www.reedhealth.com>



General Social Care Council

All internationally qualified social workers in the UK are required to register with the General Social Care Council (GSCC). Social workers who qualify outside the UK need to demonstrate their qualifications, training and experience are equivalent to the British Diploma in Social Work. The registration fee is £155.

<http://www.gsc.org.uk/home>

British Universities North America Club

In arranging for an entry visa to the UK, insurance and housing, it is strongly recommended that you enroll with the British Universities North America Club (BUNAC). BUNAC is a recognized specialist in the field of international work/travel programs in a number of countries including the UK. Once enrolled with BUNAC you will be eligible for a Blue Card that acts as an entry visa to the UK and allows recent graduates to work in Britain for up to six months. The Blue Card also provides basic emergency medical evacuation and repatriation of remains coverage. While you will be entitled to emergency National Health Treatment when you begin working in Britain, it is advised that you purchase medical and travel insurance to cover more common situations.

BUNAC will also assist you in your short-term and long-term housing arrangements, specifically in finding affordable rental accommodations. The BUNAC Work in Britain Program fee for 2008 is \$290.

www.bunac.org

USC School of Social Work
University Park Campus
Montgomery Ross Fisher Building
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0411
www.usc.edu/socialwork



MSW Post-Graduate Certificate

International Social Work Practice
United Kingdom



Program Overview

International Social Work Practice United Kingdom



For master of social work graduates who wish to acquire work experience overseas and advanced knowledge about the theory and practice of social work in an international context, the University of Southern California School of Social Work offers a unique opportunity to work and study in the United Kingdom.

The **MSW Post-Graduate Certificate Program in International Social Work Practice in the United Kingdom (UK)** will provide participants a yearlong immersion into the UK's social welfare profession, as well as the social and cultural milieu of Great Britain. The program complements the educational objectives of an MSW degree with an intercultural experience that offers opportunities for personal growth and professional development. Successful completion of the program leads to a Post-Graduate Certificate in International Social Work Practice from the USC School of Social Work.

Program Details

FORMAT

The program runs yearly, beginning during the summer months. It consists of five core components including: 1) an orientation designed to give participants an understanding of social work practices in the UK; 2) a yearlong, professionally supervised and paid practice placement in a social welfare agency in the UK; 3) a comprehensive, comparative research study on a topic related to an area of social work practice in consultation with a USC social work faculty member; 4) meetings with an agency-identified practice teacher who will provide advice related to a required research project; and 5) a final debriefing with a USC social work faculty member in the UK.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

This program will be of particular interest to MSW program graduates who want to extend their knowledge of social work and social policy in a comparative international context. Applicants must have a master's degree from an accredited school of social work. An individual admissions interview is required.

ADMISSION

This program uses a selection process for admission. Applicants who meet all requirements listed below are invited to apply. Admission to the certificate program is contingent upon the following:

- MSW degree (Students who are on schedule to receive an MSW degree in May are also eligible to apply)
- Letter of recommendation from current employer
- Letter of recommendation from field placement supervisor if not currently employed in a social service agency
- Completed application form
- Resume and cover letter

PROGRAM FEE

The program fee varies yearly and includes the administrative costs of arranging a paid practice placement in the UK, in-country supervision, as well as USC oversight of the program. It does not include airfare, accommodations in the UK, meals, in-town transportation, licensing fees, insurance and miscellaneous expenses.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS WILL GAIN

- An understanding of the UK's social welfare system, particularly its impact on individuals, families, groups and communities
- New perspectives of the social work profession by serving as a social worker in the UK
- Competence in conducting comparative research at the international level
- Opportunities to develop valuable international networks with colleagues in the UK

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

Upon successful completion of the program, participants will earn 15 hours of continuing education from the USC School of Social Work, as well as a certificate.



Frequently Asked Questions

How will I secure a practice placement in London?

Upon acceptance into the program, a USC School of Social Work faculty member will connect you with Reed Health Care in London, our program partner, which will work with you in securing a placement. Reed will forward your application to representatives from various UK councils, which will decide whether or not your qualifications meet the criteria for open positions. If so, representatives from the councils will come to Los Angeles to interview candidates in person and decide whether to extend a formal offer of employment.

Is it necessary for me to be registered as a social worker in the UK?

Yes. You will need to register with the General Social Care Council in London immediately following your acceptance of a placement. The international registration process can take up to 16 weeks (4 months).

Will I be paid for my practice placement?

Yes. Once you have secured a placement with a social welfare agency in the UK, you will receive a monthly living wage.

Where will I live in London?

While Reed and the local councils will be helpful, we suggest that you enroll in the British Universities North America Club (BUNAC), which can also assist in finding you suitable housing.

What can I expect as my average monthly expenses in the UK?

While living expenses can vary depending upon the area you live and individual lifestyle, the following is an estimate of monthly expenses:

Housing:	\$800
Meals:	\$500
In-Town Transportation:	\$100
Other Misc. Expenses:	\$300
Estimated Monthly Expenses:	\$1,700

What other expenses can I anticipate?

You will need to budget for round-trip airfare to the UK (approximately \$1,200) and a licensing fee (approximately \$320). Also, if you enroll in BUNAC's Work in Britain Program, the fee is \$290. In addition, you will need to secure an FBI background check (costs vary).

Do I need a passport and visa?

You will need a passport that is valid through the year of your placement. To obtain a passport for the first time, you need to go in person to any passport acceptance facility with two photographs of yourself, proof of U.S. citizenship and a valid form of photo identification such as a driver's license. A visa is not required for stays of up to six months. However, a Blue Card that acts as an entry visa to the UK is advised. If you enroll in BUNAC, the organization will arrange for your Blue Card. For additional information, consult the nearest visa-issuing consulate general in California at 310.481.0031 or www.britainusa.com/la.

What do I pack?

Because you will be in the UK for at least one year, please pack appropriate clothing. As of August 2008, you will be able to travel with two checked pieces of luggage weighing no more than 50 pounds apiece. You will be charged additional fees for excess luggage and weight.

What is the money situation?

The local currency in the UK is the British pound (£). The current exchange rate is approximately £1.00 = \$1.94 (August 2008). You can exchange money at banks and exchange bureaus and also use credit cards and ATM cards.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Cherry Short, CBE
213.821.4223 • cshort@usc.edu

Application

MSW Post-Graduate Certificate Program International Social Work Practice in the United Kingdom

BASIC INFORMATION

Name _____

Social security number _____

Local address _____

Permanent address: _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____

Email _____

Emergency contact _____

Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone _____

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE/AGENCY AFFILIATION

Name of school or agency _____

Title _____

Address _____

Degree to date _____

Expected degree _____

Expected graduation date _____

USC student ID # (if applicable) _____