

Social Work degrees

The University of Birmingham has been providing **social work education since 1908** ([/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/IASS/100-years-of-social-work.pdf](#)). As the oldest running social work education programme in the country, we are proud of our history and we are committed to continuing our work to raise professional social work standards and promote good practice.

Qualifying programmes

We offer two qualifying Social Work degrees; an undergraduate route (3 year BA Social Work), and postgraduate route (2 year MA Social Work). Successful completion of either of these programmes will allow you to register with HCPC as a qualified Social Worker.

- [BA Social Work \(/undergraduate/courses/social-policy/social-work.aspx\)](#)
- [MA Social Work \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/social-work.aspx\)](#)
- [MA Social Research \(Social Work and Professional Practice\) \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/social-research-soc-work.aspx\)](#)

Both the BA and MA Social Work fulfil all the requirements of the Government to enable you to qualify as a Social Worker. As part of this, all students will undertake specific learning, and will be assessed in the following key areas:

- Assessment, planning, intervention and review
- Communication skills with children, adults and those with particular communication needs
- Law
- Partnership working and information-sharing across professional disciplines and agencies

For both programmes there is a requirement for students to undertake supervised and assessed practice learning during the course of the programme.

All applications for these programmes must be made via the **UCAS entry form** (<http://www.ucas.co.uk>) in the autumn. You can also visit the 'information' section of the UCAS website to calculate the tariff points you have from various types of qualifications and calculate the equivalents of the points required for the social work course using the 'tariff calculator'.

Find out more about **student finance at Birmingham University** (<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/studentservices/funding/index.aspx>) and check information at the **Health and Care Professions Council** (<http://www.hpc-uk.org/>).

Postqualifying programmes

In 2005, a revised framework for Social Workers postqualifying (PQ) awards in England was launched, the aim being to support social workers in developing their skills and knowledge throughout their careers. Reflecting this aim, the revised framework was made up of three levels of award; specialist, higher specialist and advanced.

In addition the revised framework sought to strengthen opportunities to develop specific skills and knowledge relating to career pathways. The programmes available reflect this with courses relating to five different areas of practice. We offer the following courses:

- [Postqualifying award in social work with children, young people, their families and carers \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/courses/pq-award-social-work-children-families.aspx\)](#)
- [Leadership and management for social care \(MA/PG Diploma\) \(/postgraduate/courses/cpd/social-policy/leader-manage-social-care.aspx\)](#)
- [Leadership and management for social work \(MA/PG Diploma/PQ Award\) \(/postgraduate/courses/cpd/social-policy/leader-manage-social-work.aspx\)](#)
- [Stage 1: Enabling others \(supervision, assessment and mentoring skills for the workplace\) \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/courses/enabling-others.aspx\)](#)
- [Stage 2: Enabling reflective practice in the workplace \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/courses/enabling-reflective-practice.aspx\)](#)
- [Specialist award in social work with adults \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/courses/specialist-social-work-adults.aspx\)](#)

[More about Postqualifying/professional development courses \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/courses/professional-development.aspx\)](#)