

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL WORK

STRENGTHS:

- The program reports that 59% of graduates go on to graduate study.
- Success with preparing workforce for behavioral health services.
- Productive relationship with social service entities and health care providers across the state.
- Provides leadership role in the communities in areas of faculty expertise.
- Good prospects for collaboration with UAA, with mutual benefits for both programs.
- The Rural Cohort model has been highly successful for Indigenous students in rural Alaska.
- It is the only distance delivered Social Work BA program in the UA system.
- On average, enrollment in the program has remained steady.

WEAKNESSES:

- Instability of state funding.
- Attrition of faculty (from 3.1 FTEs in FY15 to 2.42 FTEs in FY19).
- Limited resources to maintain current strength in Rural Cohort track.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Well-positioned for fruitful collaboration across UA, and especially with UAA.
- High demand for an MSW Cohort from BASW cohort alumni.
- High demand for social workers in the state.
- Support from local health care organizations to increase the workforce.
- Expanding distance delivery options for BA degree to enroll more students from small communities and rural places in Alaska.
- Increasing enrollment through participation in the One Health initiative at UAF.

THREATS:

- Faculty attrition due to instability at UA.
- Continuous decline in state funding.
- Reduction in intensives due to the restructuring of Rural Cohort.
- Expansion of distance delivered courses has led to students having less involvement in campus-based co-curricular activities .

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- Central to UAF mission; serves communities throughout the State.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- Prepares workforce for the state of Alaska.
- Production of high quality students as evidenced by the success of alumni.
- Fosters collaborations across UA for excellent student outcomes.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

- Some external funding that provides support for students.
- 2.4 FTEs for 143 students with an unrestricted salaries and benefits cost of approximately \$500,000.

	MAJORS	DEGREES
Social Work BA	FY15: 143/ FY19: 146	FY15: 25/ FY19: 32

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Social Work BA:

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation (7 votes, 1 abstention)	Develop plan for MSW cohort; pursue external grant support; work to make full BA curriculum available online	Two years