# Social Work, Certificate of Achievement

## Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

Social Work is an applied behavioral science that emphasizes the application of behavioral science principles in a variety of cultural contexts. Social Work students are expected to think critically and scientifically about behavior, to apply the principles of the behavioral sciences, and to understand the role of values in diverse cultural settings. As a profession, social work focuses on methods for helping people from many different social groups to improve the quality of their lives.

The Social Work program has two primary goals. The first is to provide students with the basic science and social work courses that prepare them for entry-level work in the field and/or transfer to four-year colleges, universities or other institutions. The second goal is to provide students with general knowledge related to the behavioral sciences that compliments their interests in the field of Social Work.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the program will be able to:

* Identify, analyze, and demonstrate the various levels of social work practices in diverse environments**.**
* Identify the various roles of social workers at micro, mezzo, and macro levels including but not limited to roles such as case manager, broker, outreach worker, and advocate.
* Demonstrate an understanding of the issues faced by under-represented and vulnerable communities.

Career Option

Most career options directly related to professional (licensed) social work require graduate level degrees. However, there are applied and paraprofessional occupations that value the associate degree. Social services departments, hospitals, academic and community mental health facilities, child care programs, services for the aged, alcohol and other drug treatment programs, family services agencies, and other community organizations are all examples of settings which employ both professional and paraprofessional social service providers. Education at each academic level enhances skills, knowledge, and employability.

## Item 2. Catalog Description

The Certificate of Achievement in Social Work provides students a strong foundation in scientific assessment and analysis of behavior. Students apply social work theories through practice with individuals, groups, and communities. This program is designed for students interested in working in public and private organizations, students majoring in social work, and students pursuing an associate’s or bachelor’s degree in social work.

Award Note

Students intending to transfer into this major at a CSU or UC should consult with a counselor and visit www.assist.org for guidance on appropriate transfer coursework.

## Item 3. Program Requirements

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE MAJOR:** | | | **UNITS** | **RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE\*** |
|  | [HUMS 110](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=25369&rpt=pdf) | Social Work Fields of Service | 3 | Y1,S1 |
|  | [HUMS 120](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=25370&rpt=pdf) | Introduction to Social Work | 3 | Y1,S1 |
|  | BIOL 107 | General Biology-Lecture and Laboratory | 4 | Y1,S2 |
|  | ECON 120 | Principles of Macroeconomics | 3 | Y2,S2 |
|  | [PSYC 101](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=23721&rpt=pdf) | General Psychology | 3 | Y1,S1 |
|  | [PSYC 258](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=28744&rpt=pdf) | Behavioral Science Statistics | 3 | Y2,S1 |
| or | MATH 119 | Elementary Statistics | 3 | Y2,S1 |
|  | [SOCO 101](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=27927&rpt=pdf) | Principles of Sociology | 3 | Y1,S2 |
| **COMPLETE TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING:** | | | **UNITS** | **RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE\*** |
|  | [PSYC 161](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=28918&rpt=pdf) | Introduction to Counseling | 3 | Y1,S2 |
|  | [PSYC 230](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=28178&rpt=pdf) | Psychology of Lifespan Development | 3 | Y2,S1 |
|  | [PSYC 245](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=28179&rpt=pdf) | Abnormal Psychology | 3 | Y2,S2 |
|  | [SOCO 110](http://www.curricunet.com/SDCCD/reports/course_outline.cfm?courses_id=27928&rpt=pdf) | Contemporary Social Problems | 3 | Y1,S2 |
| **TOTAL UNITS 28** | | | | |

## *\*Course offerings are subject to change. Refer to the* [*SDCCD Online Class Schedule*](https://www.sdccd.edu/students/class-search/search.html) *for the most updated course offerings for the semester.*

## Item 4. Master Planning

San Diego City College has as its highest priority student learning and achievement. The College provides lower division and general education courses that lead to certificates, associate degrees or transfer to a four-year college or university; career technical education programs that meet specific industry needs, upgrade the employment skills of students and fulfill licensing requirements of the state of California as well as contribute to the economic development of our region; basic skills instruction to assist all students in meeting their educational goals; and essential student support services for all students.

### Student Selection

The award will observe the open enrollment required for California community college courses (California Code of Regulations, Title 5, § 51006 and §§ 58100-58108).

### Need

This proposal for the Certificate of Achievement is a major part of the Social Work Curriculum Alignment/Regional Equity Recovery Partnership Project funded by the regional SWP (1705-RSWP6-06). One of the primary purposes of this grant was to develop a regionally aligned certificate in social work. It is designed to be stackable to the existing Associate Degree in Social Work, which prepares our students to transfer into a baccalaureate program. While we are aware of the necessity of a baccalaureate degree to earn a high salary in this sector, we have placed many students into para-professional/supervisorial positions while they are still pursuing our currently available certificate/degree. This proposed certificate is one of many ways that San Diego City College is responding to the call for action by the San Diego County Behavioral Workforce Report, which indicates that we need to promptly produce a behavioral health workforce to meet the expected demand in the region.

As advised by County of San Diego Fourth District Supervisor Chair Nathan Fletcher, the San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) is addressing the shortage of trained behavioral health workers in the San Diego region by building a better way to deliver services and transform our behavioral health system through recruiting, training, and retaining more mental health and addiction treatment professionals to work in San Diego County.

Based on the [San Diego Behavioral Health Workforce Report](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O8oWSM6oWm373OZZreM50X_nyv912U6N/view?usp=sharing), San Diego County is facing a significant behavioral health (BH) worker shortage. This report estimates 17,000 BH professionals were employed in 11 key occupations in 2022. This is 8,000 workers short of the 25,000 needed. These statewide projected shortages were all before the outbreak of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Since 2020, community need for behavioral health services, workforce shortages and wage competition from other industries have intensified, intensifying the long-standing workforce shortage to crisis levels.

San Diego City College is one of six colleges participating in the Southern Border Region counties to strengthen social work pipelines through strategic, collaborative, and innovative efforts focusing on targeted outreach, recruitment, and retention. As one of three colleges in the region offering a social work program, San Diego City College is adding to the Associate of Arts Degree in Social Work (the combination of district general education courses) the one-year Certificate of Achievement in Social Work providing students skills for employment upon completion as well as the pathway towards an associate and bachelor’s degree.

The Certificate of Achievement in Social Work at San Diego City College is a new program that not only addresses the region’s goal to bolster the number of trained behavioral health workers, it also prepares completers interested in pursuing the well-established San Diego City College Associate of Arts Degree in Social Work that has been serving the region and the local community since its CCCCO approval on August 2, 2018. [Please see attached COCI approval letter.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Qk1Ocaqw4U8XTJHYVnD3SlxwQWijQ1sj/view?usp=sharing)

### Community Support

The following local organizations endorses the Social Work Certificate of Achievement at San Diego City College.

* Interfaith Community Services
* National Alliance on Mental Illness San Diego & Imperial Counties
* PATH San Diego
* San Diego Housing Commission

Please find the [support letters](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZM2_hVllouCTT7B5T8lUFi-85mrmCCdy/view?usp=share_link) advocating to move the recommendation of the new award at San Diego City College, affirming that there are jobs available for program completers within the local service area of the college.

### Labor Market Information

The [October 2022 Centers of Excellence Social Work Occupations](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ubijRT7S0i0K7eZoHZAXZws1Lc5hQmau/view?usp=share_link) brief provides labor market information about Social Work Occupations to assist the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges with program development and strategic planning. Social Work Occupations include “Child, Family, and School Social Workers,” ‘Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other,” “Social and Human Service Assistants,” and “Social Workers, All Other.” According to available labor market information, Social Work Occupations in San Diego County have a labor market demand of 1,184 annual job openings (while average demand for a single occupation in San Diego County is 245 annual job openings), and 11 institutions supply 792 awards for these occupations, suggesting that there is a supply gap in the labor market. Entry-level wages except for “Social and Human Service Assistants,” and **median wages for these occupations are above the living wage**. This brief **recommends that the colleges proceed with caution with developing a new program for these occupations but supports a program modification** because 1) a high number of annual job openings exist for these occupations; 2) on average, these occupations’ entry-level wages are above the living wage; and 3) there is a supply gap in San Diego County. **Colleges should note that the percentage of students who complete a related program and earn a living wage is lower than students who complete Career Education programs in general.** San Diego City College’s proposed new Certificate of Achievement in Social Work is a career education-based program that addresses the supply gap in the labor market. The coursework completed in the award not only prepares students for social work occupations, it also provides students the completed coursework if they are interested in pursuing an associate degree and/or bachelor’s degree.

According to the State of California Employment Development Department, projections of employment for the 2018 – 2028 for behavioral health occupations are expected to increase by 143 in the San Diego-Carlsbad area, supporting growth in the behavioral health occupations until 2028.

Occupational Projection of Employment 2018-2028 for San Diego County

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Occupation** | **Employment** | | **Employment Change** | | **Annual Avg Openings** |
| **Estimated** | **Projected** | **Number** | **Percent** |
| [Social and Human Service Assistants](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=social+and+human&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=0604000073&soccode=211093&search=Explore+Occupation)  (SOC Code: 21-1093) | 2630 | 3020 | 390 | 14.8 | 3750 |
| [Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=community+and+soci&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=0604000073&soccode=211099&search=Explore+Occupation)  (SOC Code: 21-1099) | 1010 | 1090 | 80 | 7.9 | 1270 |
| [Child, Family, and School Social Workers](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=child%2C+famil&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=0604000073&soccode=211021&search=Explore+Occupation)  (SOC Code: 21-1021) | 2680 | 2950 | 270 | 10.1 | 3010 |
| [Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=mental+health+and&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=0604000073&soccode=211023&search=Explore+Occupation)  (SOC Code: 21-1023) | *Projections for this occupation in San Diego County are not available.* | | | | |
| [Social Workers, All Other](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=social+workers&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=0604000073&soccode=211029&search=Explore+Occupation)  (SOC Code: 21-1029) | 370 | 390 | 20 | 5.4 | 390 |

*Source:* [*https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSSelection.asp?*](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSSelection.asp?)

### Advisory Board

The [October 26, 2022 Human Services Advisory Committee](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cO6zELbKzqUAWZrMZLQo-rpby_jniH65/view?usp=share_link) approves the creation of a **new program** at San Diego City College in response to County of San Diego Fourth District Supervisor Chair Nathan Fletcher request that the San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) address the shortage of trained behavioral health workers in the San Diego region. The college’s proposal will lead San Diego to building a better way to deliver services and transform our behavioral health system through recruiting, training, and retaining more mental health and addiction treatment professionals to work in San Diego County.

### Regional Consortium Recommendation

This is a **new program** addressing industry and students’ needs and requires Regional Consortium recommendation**.**

## Item 5. Enrollment and Completer Projections

### (A) Course Enrollment Data

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | **2020 – 2021** | | **2021 - 2022** | |
| **Course Department Number** | **Course Title** | **Annual # Sections** | **Annual Enrollment Total** | **Annual # Sections** | **Annual**  **Enrollment Total** |
| BIOL 107 | General Biology-Lecture and Laboratory | 36 | 881 | 32 | 744 |
| ECON 120 | Principles of Macroeconomics | 10 | 410 | 11 | 309 |
| HUMS 110 | Social Work Fields of Service | 3 | 136 | 4 | 159 |
| HUMS 120 | Introduction to Social Work | 4 | 169 | 4 | 161 |
| MATH 119 | Elementary Statistics | 39 | 1174 | 33 | 717 |
| PSYC 101 | General Psychology | 32 | 1182 | 34 | 1127 |
| PSYC 161 | Introduction to Counseling | 3 | 115 | 3 | 109 |
| PSYC 230 | Psychology of Lifespan Development | 6 | 255 | 5 | 189 |
| PSYC 245 | Abnormal Psychology | 5 | 189 | 4 | 156 |
| PSYC 258 | Behavioral Science Statistics | 10 | 384 | 11 | 379 |
| SOCO 101 | Principles of Sociology | 28 | 959 | 26 | 659 |
| SOCO 110 | Contemporary Social Problems | 5 | 173 | 4 | 83 |

## *Source:* [*https://www.sdcity.edu/about/institutional-effectiveness/research/enrollment-dashboard.aspx*](https://www.sdcity.edu/about/institutional-effectiveness/research/enrollment-dashboard.aspx)

(B) Completer Projections

Based on enrollment data, the estimated enrollment completer projection of students to earn the award annually is 10 students.

## Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs

After reviewing San Diego City College’s existing program inventory in the CCC Curriculum Inventory, the following questions have been addressed:

1. Do any active inventory records need to be made inactive or changed in connection with the approval of the proposed program? If yes, please specify.  
   A new COCI Control# will need to be created in connection with the approval of this new program.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Submission Type  New Program | Projected Start Date  Fall 2024 |
| Need for proposal  The Certificate of Achievement in Social Work at San Diego City College is a new program that not only addresses the region’s goal to bolster the number of trained behavioral health workers, it also prepares completers interested in pursuing the well-established San Diego City College Associate of Arts Degree in Social Work that has been serving the region and the local community. As advised by County of San Diego Fourth District Supervisor Chair Nathan Fletcher, the San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) is addressing the shortage of trained behavioral health workers in the San Diego region by building a better way to deliver services and transform our behavioral health system through recruiting, training, and retaining more mental health and addiction treatment professionals to work in San Diego County. San Diego City College is one of six colleges participating in the Southern Border Region counties to strengthen social work pipelines through strategic, collaborative, and innovative efforts focusing on targeted outreach, recruitment, and retention. As one of three colleges in the region offering a social work program, San Diego City College is adding to the Associate of Arts Degree in Social Work (the combination of district general education courses) the one-year Certificate of Achievement in Social Work providing students skills for employment upon completion as well as the pathway towards an associates and bachelors degree. | |

1. Does the program replace any existing program(s) on the college’s inventory? Provide relevant details if this program is related to the termination or scaling down of another program(s).  
   This award does not replace any existing program(s) on the college’s inventory at the State Chancellor’s Office.
2. What related programs are offered by the college?

* Associate of Arts Degree
  + Social Work

## Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area

Per the State Chancellor’s Office Curriculum Inventory, five colleges provide associate degrees and/or certificates of achievement in TOP Code 2104.00\*Human Services in the San Diego County area.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **College** | **Award Title** | **Award Type** | **COCI CTRL#** |
| **2104.00\* Human Services *Vocational*** | | | |
| Cuyamaca College | | | |
| Social Work | | Associate of Science Degree | 17024 |
| MiraCosta College | | | |
| Social Work and Human Services | | Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree | 39582 |
| Palomar College | | | |
| Social Work and Human Services | | Associate of Science Degree | 40047 |
| Social Work and Human Services | | Certificate of Achievement | 40048 |
| San Diego City College | | | |
| Social Work | | Associate of Arts Degree | 36933 |
| Southwestern College | | | |
| Social Work and Human Services | | Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree | 38018 |
| Social Work and Human Services | | Associate of Arts Degree | 05414 |

*Source:* [*https://coci2.ccctechcenter.org/programs*](https://coci2.ccctechcenter.org/programs)