

## Human Services Program News Spring 2026

*“The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention.”*

Oscar Wilde (Irish author, poet, and playwright)

Welcome to the Spring 2026 semester! The quote above highlights the importance of our actions and how they may affect others. I hope this edition of the Program News brings you the information you need to excel in your role as a student in our Human Services program. Our faculty wish you a successful semester ahead!

**Wendy D. Bratina, Ed.D., Program Director & Professor, Human Services Program;  
Teaching & Learning Center Coordinator**

### **Program News**

Our program webpage offers a general overview of the Human Services program here: [Program Page](#) and each of our degrees also have their own webpage with a more comprehensive overview. There are two main paths that many of our students take to get started on their way to a **transfer degree**. At HACC, we have the Social Services AA transfer degree and we have the Social Sciences AA transfer degree. Both have the general education requirements necessary to prepare you for entry into a four-year institution. The Social Services degree has more practical skills built in and requires a 125-hour practicum experience. The Social Sciences degree focuses on the general education requirements and a broad overview of knowledge in several areas. This page has information on the Social Services AA: [Social Services AA](#). This page has information on the Social Sciences AA transfer degree - [Social Sciences AA](#). If you have questions about the Social Sciences degree, please contact David Bailey, Department Chair, at [drbailey@hacc.edu](mailto:drbailey@hacc.edu).

We also offer two **career degrees**: the Human Services AAS and the Addiction and Recovery Services AAS. This page has information on the Human Services AAS degree: [Human Services AAS](#). This page has the information on the Addiction and Recovery Services AAS degree: [Addiction & Recovery Services AAS](#).

### **HUMS 215 Field Work Practicum**

The semester before you are planning to take the practicum, please fill out the HUMS 215 Intent to Enroll Form located at this link [Intent to Enroll](#) on our [Program Page](#). Once you have submitted the form you will receive a detailed list of steps you need to complete prior to registering for HUMS 215.

### **IMPORTANT POINTS:**

- It is the responsibility of the student to secure a placement for Practicum. HACC does not place students at sites.
- Please review Chapters 1-4 in the Human Services Field Work Practicum manual. Chapter 3 will be the most useful for students looking for a practicum site. The link is here: [Field Work Practicum Manual](#).
- You cannot enroll in the course until the Practicum instructor provides you with a registration override. This override is provided to you after you have specific documents submitted.
- You must submit a new Intent to Enroll survey even if you have completed one in a past term. This situation would occur if a student has filled out the Intent to Enroll survey and the situation changes and the student decides to delay taking the practicum until a future semester.
- Please fill out the [Intent to Enroll](#) and then additional instructions will be sent to you. If your information changes (phone, agency interest, etc.), you may simply email an update to Jennie Baar at [jnbaar@hacc.edu](mailto:jnbaar@hacc.edu). However, if the semester you plan to take the practicum changes, you will need to submit a new Intent to Enroll survey as stated above.

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- The deadlines will ensure there will be space for you in the course. The course maximum is 10 students. If there is a need for an additional section of the practicum course based on responses to the survey, we will make every effort to add a section. Students must submit their Intent to Enroll for the Field Work Practicum by **April 1** for the summer semester, **July 1** for the fall semester, and **November 1** for the spring semester.
- All required documents must be submitted by **May 1** for the summer semester, **August 1** for the fall semester and **December 15** for the spring semester.

<b>I plan to take HUMS 215 in this term:</b>	<b>Intent to Enroll survey due</b>	<b>Required documents due</b>
Summer 2026	April 1, 2026	May 1, 2026
Fall 2026	July 1, 2026	August 1, 2026
Spring 2027	November 1, 2026	December 15, 2026

For any questions, please contact Jennie Baar at [jnbaar@hacc.edu](mailto:jnbaar@hacc.edu). There are resources to help you prepare for your Practicum in the **Internships & Experiential Learning (IELOPs) LibGuide** at this link: [IELOPs LibGuide](#)

## **Money for College**

Did you know there are scholarships for Human Services program majors? Don't miss out on FREE money! Click here for more information: [Scholarships](#)

## **Human Services Club**

If you are interested in starting a Human Services Student club, you are encouraged to speak to your peers or any Human Services faculty member. You may also connect with someone from the Student Life team to learn about the process for starting a Human Services Club: [Student Activities](#)

## **Resources for the Human Services Field**

- **211.org** – Click link for resources: <https://www.211.org/>
- **988** - The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Click link for more info: <https://988lifeline.org/>
- **PA Link** - The Department of Aging has launched its first-ever statewide media campaign to build greater awareness and utilization of the PA Link to Aging and Disability Resources, also known as the PA Link. Click link for more info: [PA Link](#)

## **Professional Development**

**Tau Upsilon Alpha** The purpose of Tau Upsilon Alpha National Organization for Human Services Honor Society is to honor academic excellence; to foster lifelong learning, leadership and development; and to promote excellence in service to humanity. For information: [TUA](#)

## **Conferences**

**National Organization for Human Services** For conference info. click link: [NOHS National Conference](#)  
Other conferences may be found at: [Behavioral Health Conferences](#)

## **Employment Opportunities**

Looking for **employment**? Organizations reach out to HACC students quite frequently. You can find many local opportunities at College Central Network offered through HACC's Career Services at: [College Central Network](#)

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## **Career Services**

- Contacts - [Career Services Contacts](#)
- Events - [Career Events](#)
- Internships and Experiential Learning Opportunities - [Internships & Experiential Learning Opportunities](#)
- View the list of employers and events/workshops through your student account on HACC's College Central Network (CCN) – [CCN](#) If you haven't yet activated your free, student CCN account please email [careerservices@hacc.edu](mailto:careerservices@hacc.edu) for assistance to activate your account today!
- Handouts, Guides, Videos & Interview Tool Box – [Career Services Handouts & Guides](#)

## **Student Involvement Events**

The Student Involvement team would like to encourage you to attend these upcoming events. For event details, registration, and questions please:

- visit the [HACC Events Calendar](#).
- utilize this [flyer](#) to learn about upcoming events.
- email [studentinvolvement@hacc.edu](mailto:studentinvolvement@hacc.edu).

## **Our Transfer Partners**

**Elizabethtown College's Department of Social Work** invites students to transfer to Elizabethtown College to earn their Bachelor's in Social Work. The new dual admission program allows HACC students to earn their bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College. Students can even have access to Etown resources while still enrolled at HACC. Students accepted to this program are also able to enroll in courses at Elizabethtown College that are not offered at HACC, but are required for the completion of the Elizabethtown College bachelor's degree. Tuition for up to two of these courses will be waived (<https://www.etown.edu/admissions/>). Etown strives to offer a financial aid package designed individually for each student, and a recent financial aid study found that the average debt at graduation was lower than most surrounding schools.

Our social work program offers small classes with a high number of field hours, including almost 700 hours of internships in the junior and senior years. Students are easily able to get to know their professors and classmates due to the size of the program. The program can be completed full or part-time and Elizabethtown's reputation and quality of education leads to great outcomes with over 90% of the graduating class since 2019 having a job or acceptance to an MSW program within a month of graduation. For more information, please contact: James R. Corbin, MSW, LCSW - Social Work Program Director - [corbinj@etown.edu](mailto:corbinj@etown.edu) or 717-361-4745.

## **Elizabethtown College's Human Services degree**

The human services major at Elizabethtown College is a flexible adult degree program—all of the major courses are offered online, while core and general electives are offered online, onsite or blended. A wide range of major electives allows students to personalize the program to their unique interests. Additionally, Etown offers a separate major, [Human Services – Behavioral and Addictions Counseling](#)—for those looking for a more specific area of human services. After you complete the accelerated degree program in human services you can immediately work in entry-level, non-licensed positions within an array of human services organizations, or continue to pursue an advanced degree in counseling or a similar field. For more information, go to this link: <http://www.etowndegrees.com/programs/bachelors/human-services.aspx>

## **Millersville University School of Social Work**

Since 1981, the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work program at Millersville University has been accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, making it the leading social work program in central Pennsylvania. The program curriculum is structured to provide students with valuable classroom experiences as well as experiential learning. In this major, students are required to complete 14 social work courses, two social work electives, four additional related courses, and 400 hours of practicum instruction. The program is sequenced

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so that students build upon previous acquired knowledge allowing them to integrate various core social work concepts. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in international experiences, the Learning Institute's Global Well-Being and Social Change lifelong learning opportunities, Legislative Education and Advocacy Day, departmental honors thesis, faculty/student research, and many other opportunities to build a social work professional identity.

The mission of the Millersville University Baccalaureate Social Work Program is to promote human and community well-being by providing a generalist social work education rooted in the values of the social work profession. This education prepares students to be competent social workers who advocate and practice with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations utilizing the person-in-environment framework. Our graduates will be contemporary social workers committed to social, racial, economic, and environmental justice, human rights, the elimination of poverty, and globally responsive scientific inquiry. Upon graduation, students are eligible to apply for state licensure, as well as continue their education in a Master's of Social Work graduate program.

Recently, Millersville University launched the accelerated BASW to MSW option to undergraduate Social Work majors. This option is available to eligible students who are excelling academically and interested in applying to MSW upon completion of BASW degree. Students are able to complete up to four MSW electives while completing their BASW degree that satisfy both undergraduate and later MSW degree graduate requirements. The students pay for the courses at the undergraduate rate. This not only reduces the overall cost of their graduate education but the number of credits they complete once enrolled in the MSW program.

The School of Social Work offers the certification in School Social Work and certificates in Trauma-Informed Behavioral Health (with concentrations in equine-assisted therapy and expressive arts), and Children, Youth, and Families. The School also offers dual degrees in MSW+Emergency Management and MSW+Sport Management.

### Links to programs:

BASW F2F: [Social Work](#); BASW Online Degree Completion: [BASW Online Degree Completion](#)  
MSW (this includes the dual degree and certificate/certifications programs): [Master of Social Work](#)

### Contacts:

Dr. Karen Rice, Department Chair, School of Social Work, (717) 871-5297 [karen.rice@millersville.edu](mailto:karen.rice@millersville.edu)  
Laura Granruth, MSW Coordinator [Laura.Granruth@millersville.edu](mailto:Laura.Granruth@millersville.edu)  
Jennifer M. Frank, BASW Coordinator [Jennifer.Frank@millersville.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Frank@millersville.edu)

### Penn State Harrisburg

Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) at Penn State Harrisburg offers a unique blend of a supportive campus environment and the prestige of a world-class research university, culminating in an official Penn State diploma. This multidisciplinary program prepares students to promote well-being across the life span, with flexible electives that allow for minors or concurrent majors.

Transfer-friendly and career-focused, HDFS graduates thrive in fields such as health and human services, child advocacy, early childhood education, and program administration. Shape lives, build communities, and launch your future with HDFS at Penn State Harrisburg!

Website: <https://harrisburg.psu.edu/hdfs>

Contact: Dr. Patricia Aguilera, [aqa240@psu.edu](mailto:aqa240@psu.edu) or Rebecca Parthermore, [rlp26@psu.edu](mailto:rlp26@psu.edu)

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**Shippensburg University's Department of Social Work and Gerontology wants to hear from you if you would be interested in the hybrid degree completion program in Harrisburg!** There are face-to-face classes one night a week and other classes are online. Our program offers small classes for an inclusive, experiential learning environment that promotes collaboration between peers and expert faculty. The mission of the program is to provide comprehensive preparation for competent entry level social work practice and/or graduate study. This program includes (1) a curriculum grounded in the generalist approach; (2) a special emphasis on the respect for diversity and human rights; and (3) involvement and leadership in the practice community from the local to the global. Students who graduate from the program are eligible for PA licensure and/or may qualify for advanced standing in an MSW program. Advanced standing shortens the length of time that is required in graduate school and our MSW program offers this option. Our MSW program is available in-person or online. Learn more here: [Social Work BSW](#) or [Social Work BSW Degree Completion Program](#) or contact Dr. Liz Fisher, Department Chair, [eafish@ship.edu](mailto:eafish@ship.edu)

*Have a great semester ahead!*