LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY

Frequently Asked Questions

MA Social Work

GENERAL INFORMATION

What is the duration of the programme?
Two years full-time.

Will I be a Registered Social Worker after completion?
Yes, following successful completion of all elements of the programme and the requisite theory and practice hours, you will be eligible to register as a Social Worker with Social Work England (the regulating body for the profession).

How many places do you have?
We usually have 50 places per intake.

What does the course cost?
The fees for 2021 are yet to be confirmed. As a guide, the fees for 2020 home (UK) students were £4,052 per year. For international students, fees were £16,100.

What financial help is available for students?
Each year, usually around June/July, the University is informed how many bursary-funded places we will be allocated. At this point, we will notify those applicants being nominated (normally this is done according to interview score).

Applicants not in receipt of the bursary can apply for the postgraduate student loan scheme. For details on eligibility, please visit: www.gov.uk/masters-loan

You can also contact our Student Advice Team on 0151 231 3165/3166 for more information.

In addition to the academic and work/volunteer experience entry requirements, is there any other criteria?
All applicants who are successful in selection will be required to complete a health declaration, plus an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Disclosure, which will be paid for by the Faculty. You must also agree, as a requirement of completing a professional award, to the Faculty transferring data to third parties regarding your progress, attendance, placements etc.

We require two references from all applicants: one will be completed on your UCAS form and you will need to provide a second reference before

commencement. Further guidance will be given in any offer details.

We require to see and hold copies of your formal qualification certificates and no offer will be confirmed without this.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

I have specific requirements to be able to attend an interview, what do I need to do?
Please inform us at the earliest opportunity through our email (health@ljmu.ac.uk) should you require anything that will help you attend your interview. For example, if you require a signer or information in large print. The more notice we have the better, so that we can make suitable arrangements. **Please note:** Currently, interviews are being conducted via telephone / online.

What if I cannot attend interview?
You need to cancel and rebook onto another date at the earliest opportunity. If you fail to attend interview then your application will be withdrawn.

I have a criminal conviction, will that go against me?
It will depend on the circumstances. If you declare a conviction you will be sent a declaration form asking you to follow the Faculty's internal processes (you will be provided with a full list of what needs to be declared). The information you provide will be treated confidentially and considered by a panel of senior academic staff along with employers. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide advice regarding individual circumstances.

When will I be informed of a decision?
The UCAS code of practice states that we must give all on-time applications (those received by 15th January) equal consideration. Due to the high volume of applications, you may not receive a decision until we have had an opportunity to interview all suitable applicants. Decisions for on-time applicants will be made before the end of April 2020.

UCAS Track informs me I have been rejected, can I find out why?
Your rejection decision on UCAS Track will give you basic information, e.g. that you have been rejected for qualification purposes. Please check the criteria on our website before requesting further feedback if you feel you have been rejected but meet the criteria. We will provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants but only before you have made your first and insurance choice. We request that applicants email us to request feedback as soon as possible after the decision has been entered onto UCAS Track.

UCAS Track informs me I have been successful; what happens next?
Following confirmation of your successful selection, the Admissions Team will send you a Next Steps Guide in due course. This will contain all of the information about your offer and how to accept it.

LEARNING SUPPORT

I have a disability, what support will JMU provide?
We want to make sure that you are fully prepared for your time at LJMU. Should you have any specific needs, LJMU's Student Advice and Wellbeing Disability Team can ensure that the appropriate support is in place ahead of your arrival at the University. If you would like to contact the team to discuss your needs and how we can meet these in the most appropriate way, you can (in confidence) call 0151 231 3164/3165 or email disability@ljmu.ac.uk. For all other enquiries please contact the Admissions Team.

What support will I receive when I am at university and on placement?
At commencement you will be allocated a personal tutor, who you will have meetings with a few times a year, and ad-hoc if the need arises. It is with this tutor that you can discuss any issues you may have. Each module you study has a module leader who will provide guidance and support throughout your modular learning. Some modules are theory only, but some are theory with a practice element.

PLACEMENTS

Will I go out on Placement?
Yes, there are 170 days of practice in total, plus 30 skills days. MA students will undertake 70 days practice in the first year (usually in the voluntary sector), and then 100 days practice in the second year (usually in the statutory sector). With the current situation, we are guided by our practice partners regarding any changes to this.

How many hours will I work whilst on placement?
Whilst on placement students are required to work five full days a week, normally 6.5 hours per day.

How are placements allocated / how will I travel there?
Whilst it cannot be guaranteed, the Faculty tries wherever possible to minimise travel by ensuring placements are as close to your home / term-time address as possible. Students should however be willing to travel for up to 1.5 hours max. per journey using the local Merseytravel network.

Will I work shifts on placement?
Generally you will not be required to undertake shift work. However if, for example, you are working on a residential placement, you may choose to work in this way.

What support will I receive whilst on placement?
You will be supported by a workplace supervisor and a practice assessor. This may, depending on the organisation, be the same person. You will also be allocated a personal tutor who will support you in developing a learning contract at the beginning of the placement and reviewing your progress in the middle of it.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

What career options are available to me?
Following completion of the programme, graduates will be eligible for professional registration with Social Work England as a Social Worker, which will give eligibility for employment opportunities across the UK.

Once you are an established practitioner, you could choose to pursue further study and apply for a PhD, to further develop your career and help lead the profession forward.

The LJMU Careers Service is available throughout your degree.

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