

BOSTON COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

June 24, 2020

BC SSW is working with the agencies to support whatever structure most meets their client/program needs. Some settings can only provide in person services given the nature of the work. Other settings can only provide remote. We anticipate many will try to put together a combination of structures that attend to the health needs of employees and care needs of their community. We anticipate students will need to be flexible and understanding as the semester begins and progresses.

The Field team is reaching out to all the agencies to see how they will be able to meet students learning needs in placement. Some of you have already heard from your supervisors about the fall structure. You will hear from the Field department, your assigned Assistant Director or your agency supervisor with the expectations for the fall semester.

Yes - The Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) approved remote service delivery for training experiences. BC SSW will also support creative ways that learning can continue while students are remote, including self-study materials provided by the school or the placement.

If a student cannot be on premises for health reasons, the school and the agency will assess if any alternative remote learning experiences are possible at this setting. If not, we will work to reassign the student to a new setting that can accommodate them or may move to part-time status for the academic year.

BC has a minimum requirement of 1200 hours for the degree; 480 for First Year and 720 for Final Year. CSWE has allowed schools to approve 85% completion rate for Field Education courses. We would recommend that the student target the following range of hours

Field III (Final Year Fall) 306-360 total semester 20-24 hours per week

If a resurgence of COVID cases should occur and we are ordered to return home, we can work within the CSWE guidelines of 85% of their 900 minimum hours. As a school, we would prefer to stay as close to our curricular requirements but will adjust if conditions require that change.

Unfortunately, no. BC SSW does not have an online Field placement structure so that is not possible outside of the New England states- MA, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island & Connecticut. If you plan to stay at home outside of New England, you will need to move to part-time enrollment or defer to 2021.

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Yes, it can. The same recommendations for effective supervision would apply – consistent scheduled time, minimal interruptions, privacy during the meetings, etc. It is recommended that there are other check-in opportunities throughout the week to support the student, either by phone, email, etc.

We have an extensive resource page in the Canvas site for students, with articles, podcasts and webinars for self-study. Agencies will also be encouraged to share any resources or assign projects that are particular to their setting, services or communities, to support their experience at your agency.

Yes, due to COVID, CSWE has broadened its approval of employment-based placements. We will work with you and your work supervisors to craft an MSW learning experience that will compliment your classes. Please consult with your assigned Assistant Director to explore this option.

