

Exploring Careers in Social Work

MSU Career Development Center
209 Wigley Administration Center
389.6061 www.mnsu.edu/cdc



Topics for today

- What jobs are out there in social work?
- How do I know which jobs are right for me?
- What can I do now to increase my chances of finding a job after graduation?
- What assistance can the CDC provide me in my job search?
- How can I use the internet to help me to do a social work job search?

Social Work Majors Work In...

many professional fields with a variety of populations!

Aging and Gerontology

School Social Work

Developmental Disabilities

Health Care

Child Welfare Children's Services

Criminal Justice/Corrections

Employment/Occupational Social Work

Mental Health/Clinical

Community Organizations

Management Administration

Policy and Planning

International Social Work



Sample Job Titles of **REAL** MSU Social Work

- **Director of Social Services:** Greentree Health and Rehab.
- **School Social Worker:** Adrian Public Schools
- **Child Protection Worker:** Freeborn County Human Services
- **Program Director/LSW/QMRP:** Cenneidign Inc.
- **In-home Family Counselor:** REM Woodvale, Inc.
- **Social Services Director:** Bloomington Rehab. Institution
- **Paraprofessional-Special Ed.:** Blue Earth Area Public Schools
- **Nutrition Education Assistant:** Faribault County Extension Office
- **Family Advocate:** Great Minneapolis Crisis Nursery
- **School Social Worker:** Grygla Public Schools
- **Children's Mental Health Caseworker:** LeSueur County Human Services
- **Social Worker:** Meeker County, Elm Homes, Lutheran Social Services, North Ridge Care Center, Good Samaritan Center, Human Resource Center
- **Vocational Advisor:** Minnesota Valley Action Council

Some Potential Types of Employers to Target

- Nursing homes and senior centers
- Volunteer programs
- Schools
- Community based living arrangements
- State and local agencies
- Group homes
- Adoption and foster care agencies
- Public and private child welfare organizations
- Victim Services programs
- Advocacy organizations
- Refugee relief agencies
- Family service agencies
- International aid organizations

How do I know which areas of Social Work are right for me?

- Research
 - Career Resource Library
 - Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos060.htm>
 - Classes
- Talking to people-Informational Interviews
- Real world experience
 - Internships
 - Part-Time Jobs
 - Volunteer opportunities

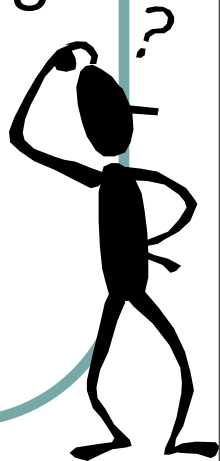
Informational Interviewing

- To explore careers & clarify your career goals
- To access the most up-to-date career information
- To discover employment opportunities
- To identify your professional strengths & weaknesses
- To expand your professional network
- To build confidence for your job interviews



Typical Questions for an Informational Interview

- On a typical day in this job/position, what do you do?
- What training or education is best for this type of work?
- What personal qualities or abilities are important to being successful in this job?
- What part of this job do you find most satisfying? Most challenging?
- Website on Informational Interviewing: <http://danenet.wicip.org/jets/jet-9407-p.html>



What Can You Do To **Increase** Your Employability?

- Improve your verbal and written communication skills by enrolling in writing and speaking classes.
- Develop your interpersonal and teamwork skills—have fun at the same time by becoming involved in campus events and organizations! 😊
- Get some work experience while you are in school!
- Use **EVERY** resource available when it comes to your job search (CDC, mavjobs.com, friends, family, newspapers, job fairs, etc, etc, etc!)
- Start your job search **EARLY!** This means beginning to put together your “strategy” (resume, defining your job goal, etc) during your junior year.



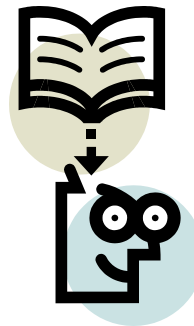
Using the Internet to Explore the Field of Social Work

- General career information regarding the field
- Professional associations & professional development
- Identifying jobs in the field of social work



General Career Information

- “What can I do with a Major in Social Work”?: <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/socialwork.htm>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook; “Social Worker”: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos060.htm>
- NASW Social Work Profession Overview: <http://www.socialworkers.org/profession/overview.asp>
- Social Work Careers Quiz: <http://www.abacon.com/socwk/quiz/>



Professional Associations & Professional Development:

- NASW Minnesota: <http://www.naswmn.org/>
- National Association of Social Workers: <http://www.naswdc.org/>
- Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB): <http://www.aswb.org/>
- Listing of Professional Associations for Social Work http://dir.yahoo.com/Social_Science/Social_Work/Organizations/Professional/
- International Federation of Social Workers: <http://www.ifsw.org/>



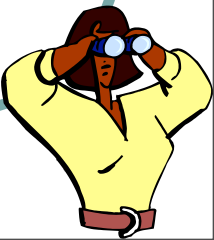
Identifying Social Work Jobs

- MSU Career Development Center's Links for Social & Behavioral Sciences Students: <http://www.mnsu.edu/cdc/students/jobsearch/links.html>
- Social Work & Social Services Jobs Online: <http://gwbweb.wustl.edu/jobs/>
- The *New Social Worker's* Online Career Center: <http://www.socialworker.com/career.htm>
- Social Work Job Bank: <http://www.socialworkjobbank.com>
- Social Service.com: <http://www.socialservice.com/>
- Social Work.com: <http://www.socialwork.com/>



Identifying Social Work Jobs

- Minnesota Council of NonProfits: [http://
www.mncn.org/](http://www.mncn.org/)
- Idealist: Action Without Borders: [http://
www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org)



Minnesota Based Job Sites

- University of St. Thomas: <http://www.stthomas.edu/career/joblistings/>
- JobPost: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/joblistings/jobpost/>
- InternPost: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/joblistings/internpost/>
- Hamline: http://www.hamline.edu/hamline_info/offices_services/student_relations/studentaffairs/cdc/job_internship_postings/job_internship_postings.html
- Minnesota's Job Bank: <http://www.mnworks.org/jsli.cfm>
- Star Tribune: <http://www.startribune.com/working/>
- Twin Cities.com: <http://www.twincities.com/mld/twincities/classifieds/employment/>
- Minnesota Department of Employee Relations: <http://www.doer.state.mn.us/stf-bltn/jobs2/index.htm>
- Find more Minnesota Job Sites at <http://www.mnsu.edu/cdc/>

Remember MavJobs.com

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the MavJobs.com website. The browser's address bar is empty, and the taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications. The website header features the logo for the Career Development Center at Minnesota State University, Mankato, and a navigation menu with icons for Home, My Profile, Interviews & Events, Resumes & Documents, Career Fair, Alumni / Mentors Search, Faculty, and Job Agent. A secondary navigation bar includes links for Help, Print, and Logout. The main content area is titled 'Welcome Jennifer Guyer-Wood!' and provides contact information for the Career Development Center. A sidebar on the left offers various search options, including 'On Campus Interviews & Events', 'Job Agent Search Results', 'Employer Search', 'Search Jobs in All Categories', and 'Degree Required/Entry Level'. The main content area also features a section for 'Upcoming Events & Deadlines' for April 2005, listing several job openings with their respective dates and times.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

Help
Print
Logout

Student Center HOME
My Profile
Interviews & Events
Resumes & Documents
Career Fair
Alumni / Mentors Search
Faculty
Job Agent

WELCOME
Jennifer Guyer-Wood!
1709 N Second St
Mankato, MN
56001

Welcome to **mavjobs.com**. If you have any questions while using this system, please contact our help desk at (507) 389-5112 or e-mail the **help desk**.

The Career Development Center Staff

Job Search

On Campus Interviews & Events

Job Agent Search Results

Employer Search

Search Jobs in All Categories

Degree Required/Entry Level
Search all

Degree Required/Experienced
Search all

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

April 2005

- FASTENAL CO.-WINONA: Developers** (Interview) (Fastenal Company - Winona) April 25, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- FASTENAL CO.-WINONA: International Sales & Operations Representative; International Sales Support Specialist** (Interview) (Fastenal Company - Winona) April 25, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- MINNESOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES: Financial Advisor/Registered Representative** (Interview) (Minnesota Financial Services) April 27, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS: IT Intern** (Interview) (Thrivent Financial for Lutherans- Minneapolis, Minnesota) April 27, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- MAGNUM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.: Product Support Specialist** (Interview) (Magnum Technologies, Inc) April 28, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- WALTER'S PUBLISHING: Programming/Software Development** (Interview) (Walter's Publishing) April 29, 2005, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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Item collected.

Where do I go for help?

- Job Search Handbook
- Career Resource Library
- CDC Website: www.mnsu.edu/cdc
- CDC QuickStop (for a quick critique)
 - Monday through Thursday 11:30-2:30
- Job Search appointment (for in-depth resume review and/or job search assistance)
 - Call 507-389-6061 or stop in to the CDC to set up

Final Thoughts

- Searching for jobs is a process
 - Know yourself
 - Know the world of work
 - Find employers and openings
 - Market yourself
- The more you do and the earlier you do it, the greater your chances are of landing a job in a timely manner after graduation

Career Development Center

Let us know if you have questions or need help!

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www.mnsu.edu/cdc

507-389-6061