

## Bachelor of Social Work

Social work is a profession based on principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversity.

The Bachelor of Social Work will prepare you for working with people and their environment.

You'll learn about people through their life span, societies and helping traditions from both western and indigenous perspectives.



### Qualification structure

This programme is made up of 20 courses. You can achieve the degree in 4 years of full-time study or up to 8 years of part time study.

| Qualification code OP7400 |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Level &gt; 7</b>       | <b>Credits &gt; 480</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Workload &gt;</b>      | Allow 10-12 hours of study per credit. Your workload may be higher around assessment due dates                                                                    |
| <b>Study type &gt;</b>    | Trimester                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Cost &gt;</b>          | See the qualification page on the website                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Student loan &gt;</b>  | You can get a student loan for this qualification if you meet the criteria. Visit <a href="https://studylink.govt.nz">studylink.govt.nz</a> for more information. |

### Career Opportunities

This qualification is ideal if you are currently working in or interested in beginning a career in the mental health and addictions, and disability sectors. Potential employment roles may include support worker, caregiver, employment consultants, whānau workers, housing coordinators, forensic staff, youth workers, aged care workers and navigators.

### How to apply

Go to the choose courses tab on the qualification page on our website. Select any Level 5 course without prerequisites and click add to enrolment plan. You'll be taken through our stepby-step enrolment process, which you can save and exit from at any time.

| Course Code | Course Name                                             | Level |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| LEVEL 5     |                                                         |       |
| 77120       | Te Ao Māori and Social Work Practice                    | 5     |
| 74111       | Aotearoa New Zealand Society                            | 5     |
| 73130       | Relationship and Communication Management               | 5     |
| 73198       | Human Development                                       | 5     |
| 77121       | Psychology for Human Services                           | 5     |
| 77122       | Professional Social Work Practice                       | 5     |
| LEVEL 6     |                                                         |       |
| 77221       | Exploring Professional Practice                         | 6     |
| 77220       | Social Work Theory, Models and Processes                | 6     |
| 77222       | Fields of Practice                                      | 6     |
| 73221       | Child and Adolescent Issues                             | 6     |
| 73223       | Understanding Mental Health                             | 6     |
| 77225       | Becoming Professional: Practicum 1                      | 6     |
| LEVEL 7     |                                                         |       |
| 77331       | Family and Whanau Dynamics                              | 7     |
| 77332       | Social Work, the Law and Ethical Decision Making        | 7     |
| 77333       | Organisation, Management and Interprofessional Practice | 7     |
| 77334       | Social Justice, Social Policy and Social Problems       | 7     |
| 77328       | Working with Older People                               | 7     |

|       |                                          |   |
|-------|------------------------------------------|---|
| 77329 | Working with Communities                 | 7 |
| 77330 | Culturally Relevant Social Work Practice | 7 |
| 77335 | Critical Practice; Practicum II          | 7 |

## What you will learn

When you achieve this qualification you will be able to:

- promote well-being and positive development
- use critical reflection and analysis to promote problem solving
- work in partnership with Māori
- promote cultural safety, social justice and social equity
- manage and organise practice
- apply knowledge for practice
- take responsibility for your professional development.

## Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) registration

The Bachelor of Social Work is recognised by the SWRB and meets their core competence standards. You can apply for provisional registration with SWRB once you're enrolled. To become fully registered, you need to achieve the degree within 8 years and gain 2000 hours of supervised practice.

Visit [swrb.org.nz](http://swrb.org.nz) for more information.

## Entry Requirements

You must be at least 17 years of age at the start of the programme and have one of the following:

- New Zealand University Entrance (Visit [nzqa.govt.nz](http://nzqa.govt.nz) for details).

## 20 years old or over

If you are 20 years and do not hold the minimum entry requirements you will be eligible to be enrolled where your previous educational, work or life experiences indicates you have a reasonable likelihood of success.

## English language requirements

International students must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 with no band score lower than 6.5, or equivalent.

Domestic students for whom English, Māori or New Zealand sign language is not their first language must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 with no band score lower than 6.5, or equivalent.

Visit [openpolytechnic.ac.nz/englishlanguage](http://openpolytechnic.ac.nz/englishlanguage) to view our English language criteria.

## Admission process

There is an admission process for this programme that enables us to check that you meet the requirements of the Social Workers Registration Act 2003 and Vulnerable Children Act 2014. You will be required to complete a safety check that includes a police vet, two professional referees and an interview.

There are links to both Acts under the entry requirements tab on the qualification page on our website.

## Practical experience

During the programme you will be required to attend 20 days of face-to-face workshops and noho marae. Travel and accommodation will be at your own expense. There are also two 60-day practicums and a 30-hour volunteer experience. Both practicums and the volunteer experience may be within your area.

## Examinations

There is one examination in the programme, which you can attend in your own area.

Visit [openpolytechnic.ac.nz/exams](http://openpolytechnic.ac.nz/exams) for more information.

## Computer and online access

This programme is delivered 100% online. To complete this programme you will need access to a laptop or desktop computer, reliable broadband internet connection and a data plan able to support online learning such as streaming of videos (including YouTube), downloading content, and writing and submitting online assessments. If you are unsure if your current computer or internet access allows you to complete your online learning with us, please contact us before applying to enrol.

Visit [openpolytechnic.ac.nz/online](http://openpolytechnic.ac.nz/online) to view our online learning and study tools.

### **International students and domestic students living overseas**

This qualification is not available for international students living overseas or in New Zealand.

Visit [openpolytechnic.ac.nz/internationalstudent](https://openpolytechnic.ac.nz/internationalstudent) for more information about the special conditions and fees that you'll need to meet.

### **Recognising your previous learning**

Your qualifications or previous experience in this area may count towards this qualification. Give us a brief outline of your qualifications and experience via the ask an advisor tab on the qualification page on our website and we'll get in touch to discuss your eligibility.