

**Indiana University
Proposal to Offer Existing Degree Program at a New Campus**

Title: Master of Social Work (IUSSW program)

Campus: East **Academic Unit:** Social Work

Department: Social Work

I. Academic Features:

Goals/Objectives: The Master of Social Work program will provide bachelor's degree recipients in the Indiana University East service region with the knowledge and skills for advanced social work practice. Graduates will be qualified to apply best practice in clinical settings and provide leadership in a variety of human services agencies.

Principal Components: 60 credit hours: including 9 credit hours of practica. Three year, part-time, evening, cohort model. Program focuses on evidence based best practice.

Relation to Existing Programs: The MSW degree on the East campus helps fulfill IU School of Social Work's mission to provide access to the MSW program to Indiana residents who face "time and geographic constraints." The MSW program is currently offered at IUPUI, IUN, IUSB, and IPFW

Coherence with Campus Mission: Compatible with the IU East mission to provide selected graduate programs, the program meets a demonstrable need in the region as expressed by social service agency directors and prospective MSW students.

Benefits of the Program for Students, IU, State: The program will increase the number of master's qualified social workers in the region, improve the effectiveness of social services, and provide greater leadership capability in social service agencies. Degree recipients will benefit through career advancement, responsibility expansion, improved economic security, professional recognition, and enhanced intervention skills.

Opportunities for Degree Recipients: MSW graduates can advance in their current jobs or acquire new jobs in mental health centers, nursing homes, child welfare agencies, schools, hospices, area agencies on aging, multi-service centers, hospitals, probation departments, group homes, developmental disability agencies, and juvenile correction facilities, among others.

II. Implementation:

Steady State Enrollment/Degree Completion Projections (year three):

Headcount	35 (35 new-to-campus)
FTE	29 (29 new-to-campus)
Degree Recipients	35

Steady State Expenses and Revenue Sources (year three):

<i>Expenses</i>		
Faculty	2.5 FTE	\$225,000
Supplies and Expense (general, travel, library, recruiting)		<u>23,800</u>
		\$248,800
<i>Revenue Sources</i>		
New-to-Campus Student Fees		\$146,700
Enrollment Change Funding		<u>102,100</u>
		\$248,800

<i>One-time Costs</i>	None
<i>Infrastructure Resources</i>	None required

Proposal for Offering the Indiana University School of Social Work Master of Social Work Degree at Indiana University East (Richmond)

Master of Social Work

Indiana University School of Social Work in cooperation with Indiana University East

Submitted by

Indiana University School of Social Work
&
Indiana University East

January 9, 2008

Coverpage

Institution:
UNIVERSITY EAST

INDIANA

Department:

Social Work

Form of Recognition to be Awarded/Degree Code:

Master of Social Work

Suggested CIP code:

Location of the Program/ Campus Code:
UNIVERSITY EAST

INDIANA

Projected Date of Implementation:

2008-09

Date Proposal was approved by
Institutional Board of Trustees:

Signature of Authorizing
Institutional Officer

Date:

Date Received by Commission
For Higher Education

Commission Action (Date)

Program Summary

Master of Social Work
Indiana University East, Richmond, and the Indiana University School of Social
Work
Proposed Date of Implementation: **June 2008 (1st Cohort – August 2008)**

I. Objectives:

The Master of Social Work program will provide bachelor's degree recipients in the Indiana University East service region with the knowledge and skills for advanced social work practice. Graduates will be qualified to apply best practice in clinical and child welfare settings and provide leadership in a variety of human services agencies.

II. Need for the Program:

The expressed need of the community for a master's degree in social work has been noted by the current IU East social work faculty over the past several years. Current faculty serve on Boards, consult with social service agencies, and conduct on-site field supervision. These interactions bring faculty in frequent contact with social service professionals who have demanded to know when the Indiana University School of Social Work would bring the MSW program to the region. The anecdotal information has been acknowledged and welcomed. Several additional steps were taken to verify the validity of this the need. These activities with results appear below.

BSW Advisory Board Meeting, Fall 2005: A discussion was held with Board members regarding expressed need for MSW in Richmond. Board members articulated their awareness of both an interest and a significant need. Board members asked the Director of the MSW Program to pursue bringing the MSW program to IU East. Board members in attendance included the Director of County DCS, a school social worker, a mental health center therapist, a mental health center supervisor, a hospice social worker, and an IU East BSW alumnus.

Survey of IU East's BSW and BSS graduates, Spring 2005: A survey was mailed to recent graduates of IU East's BSS and BSW programs. A return rate of 27% was accomplished (50 out of 183). Predictably, the overwhelming majority, 86%, of returned surveys indicated an interest in an MSW program at IU East. Travel distance, work obligations, and time constraints were identified by respondents as barriers to obtaining a MSW. When asked whether having the MSW at IU East would remedy the identified barriers 82% noted that the distance barrier would be alleviated with a program at IU East. Part-time and evening classes at IU East would eliminate time and work obligations as barriers.

Noel-Levitz Consultants Assessment Report, 2006-2007: Indiana University East is a campus in transition. To assist in decision making IU East hired Noel-Levitz consultants to complete a needs assessment of IU East's service area. Noel-Levitz noted that 33% of all students, traditional and non-traditional, envision graduate studies as part of their educational plan. Noel-Levitz noted that prospective students look for employment and graduate opportunities in deciding a school of first choice. Employers noted that, for positions that require graduate degrees, a master's degree in Social Work is most often mentioned.

Key Informant Survey Results, November 2007: In an effort to build on the information previously gathered, faculty utilized a key informant telephone survey. IU East Social Work faculty have established relationships with many key informants within the service area, and many of these individuals have informed social work faculty of their belief about the need for a program. Therefore, it was decided that the best approach was to reach beyond those well known key informants to include other social workers, social work employers, and social service providers who should know of the need for continued education in the area.

Methodology: A list of social service categories was developed. The list was a representation of social services agencies as described and listed in telephone books, web pages, community resource guides, and/or community publications. The list was reviewed by social work faculty, then by social work students. Next, the list was reviewed by non-social work staff. At each review, the reviewer was asked whether he/she could think of any additional titles under which they would search if they were seeking social services. When the reviewers believed the list was thorough, the next step began.

The service area was divided by county. Using phone books, government web sites, Chamber of Commerce data, and web search engines, staff identified and recorded information for as many social service agencies as could be found within the county under each category provided. The identified agencies were contacted, asking for the name of the person with the title Director of Social Work, Clinical Director, Social Service Director, or Agency Director. Contact names were recorded. From the list of agencies with contact names, telephone surveys were conducted.

Eight-six surveys were completed with key informants representing agencies within IU East's service area. Agencies included mental health centers, nursing homes, child welfare agencies, schools, hospices, Area Agencies on aging, multi-service centers, hospitals, probation departments, group homes, developmental disability agencies, and juvenile correction facilities.

Seventy-nine respondents, 91%, noted that access, distance, convenience, and travel were factors preventing those in this region interested in obtaining the MSW from achieving such a degree. These individuals reported a significant need for a MSW located in Richmond.

Seven individuals noted that a MSW program in Richmond would not be helpful. Three of the seven respondents were from Butler County, Ohio. They noted that travel time to Richmond was not less than travel time to the University of Cincinnati. Further, one respondent stated that the U. of C. offered the MSW in his building in Butler County. Four individuals stated that no barriers existed, noting that if an individual wanted the MSW, and was motivated enough, he/she could achieve the desired outcome.

From anecdotal information to completed survey, the need for a MSW to serve east central Indiana is clear. Key informants, stakeholders interviewed by Noel-Levitz, and IU East graduates express strong interest in the program.

III. Student Population Served:

The student population for the program includes both recent baccalaureate degree graduates as well as current human service agency employees. Recent graduates from a variety of disciplines may be eligible for admission, as may human services employees seeking formal professional development and training grounded in best practice. Also, individuals who need part-time and geographically accessible professional education in a supportive, dynamic, challenging, and practice-oriented learning community are prime candidates.

IV. How does the program complement the campus or departmental mission?

The program extends Indiana University East's mission to serve the regional community with innovative, supportive programs resulting in graduates who contribute intellectually and socially to the region, state and world. The School of Social Work's conceptual framework and objectives are advanced by providing future clients with practitioners who employ best practice methods, evidence-based interventions, and goal-oriented leadership. Graduates will be prepared to deliver best practice intervention strategies, employ professional research, empirically assess their practice and programs, and contribute professional leadership within social service agencies.

V. Relationship to existing IU system programs:

The MSW degree is currently offered at IUPUI, IUN, IUSB, and IPFW. These dispersed sites are consistent with Indiana University School of Social Work's mission to provide access to the MSW program to students who face "time and

geographic constraints.” The MSW programs throughout the system employ delivery formats designed to meet the needs of a given region. The proposal herein furthers the School of Social Work’s objective by providing access to the MSW to Indiana residents who would be denied an opportunity due to accessibility and other constraints and establishes a delivery format consistent with the needs and interests of the area.

There is no professional social work graduate degree program within the IU East service area. The IU SSW Master of Social Work program at IU East will not duplicate efforts of other campuses, as there is no service provider in this geographic region. The MSW program will increase undergraduate social work enrollment on the IU East campus and potentially may increase enrollment on the IUPUI campus as well.

VI. Resources for the Program:

The program will use existing resources of the IUSSW with the expectation of adding two full-time faculty lines and one half-time student services/field liaison line. Currently, the IUSSW assigns two full-time faculty members to the IU East campus. The resident faculty will assume responsibility for daily administration of the MSW program. Additional faculty and staff will be drawn from the IUSSW as needed.

Indiana University East will provide office space, library services, classroom space, bursar services, telephone service, computer access, and technology support, as well as additional student support services as needed.

VII. Innovative Features of the Program:

This part-time evening cohort model meets the needs of currently employed human service agency employees who seek access to graduate education. The model requires attendance in class two evening per week for three years. The rigidity of this plan allows employed students clarity when negotiating with employers for time away from the job. Furthermore, the model assists employers in implementing a plan of continued education to develop needed talent within their agencies. The delivery of the program at IU East is made possible by the unique organizational relationships in Indiana University. Students in the IU East service region will be able to take advantage of the academic and faculty resources of the system-wide IUSSW. The program is already approved for the School of Social Work at IUPUI and will be delivered at IU East by IUSSW faculty at IUPUI already approved to deliver it, while the students will be IU East students. The review and assessment of the program will be conducted under existing IUSSW review and assessment processes. Agreements worked out between Indiana University East and the Indiana University School of Social Work provide for the efficient use of resources to make this program accessible to students who would otherwise not be able to pursue it.

A. ABSTRACT

Master of Social Work
Indiana University East, Richmond, and Indiana University School of Social
Work, IUPUI

Objectives: To provide individuals in east central Indiana and west central Ohio with part-time graduate social work education, that is both geographically accessible and time specific, to directly impact the quality of social services in the region. Graduates will be qualified to actively research and apply best practice interventions with clients and provide leadership within agencies. The program will encourage and facilitate participant completion of State licensure.

1. Proposed Program

The proposed program is a post-baccalaureate graduate program leading to a Master of Social Work Degree. The program implements the curriculum designed and developed through Indiana University School of Social Work, accredited through the Council on Social Work Education, and offered on all IU campuses that offer the MSW degree.

Upon completion of the Master of Social Work students will be social workers prepared for advanced practice in their selected concentration.

Admission Requirements:

Admission criteria will be the same as established by Indiana University School of Social Work. To be considered for admission students must have at minimum:

- a. An earned bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university;
- b. Evidence of course work in liberal arts;
- c. Successful completion of a minimum of six courses in social and behavioral sciences;
- d. Successful completion of a course in statistics;
- e. Successful completion of a course in human biology;
- f. An earned cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the final 60 credit hours of the bachelor's degree; and
- g. Submission of a completed application packet by the due date.

Curriculum:

The MSW curriculum will be identical the curriculum already approved at the IUSSW at IUPUI. The program will be delivered by IUPUI faculty already approved to deliver the program.

2. Description of the Proposed Program Delivery Model

The Master of Social Work is a 60-credit hour program. The program will be offered in a part-time evening cohort model. The program will take at least 3 full academic years to complete including summer sessions. The structure of the program is two evenings a week for the entire 3 years of the program. The evenings are Tuesday and Thursday, generally from 6:00 p – 8:40 p.m.

The initial Richmond program will be limited to one concentration. Further information concerning a concentration will be decided at a later date. If students are interested in another concentration, they will have the option to travel to another campus (typically IUPUI) for their concentration year.

All courses are from the Indiana University Master Course List. It will not be necessary to propose new courses requiring system-wide approval. Courses for the proposed program have been approved at the campus level.

3. Recognition

Type of Degree: Master of Social Work

This degree is appropriate as the program is a post-baccalaureate graduate program for persons holding accredited bachelor's degrees. The program will be identical to the IUSSW evening MSW, and the credit requirement (60 graduate credits) and rigor of the program are also comparable to Master of Social Work programs traditionally approved.

Institutions Suggested CIP Code:

Information Appearing on Diploma:

Master of Social Work
Indiana University School of Social Work
Indiana University

4. Faculty and Administrators

Current Core Faculty:

IU School of Social Work faculty housed on the East campus

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Needed Resources

The Indiana University East Library, in consultation with the Social Work faculty, deliberately and consistently review and secure new and appropriate resources for the social work program. Online subscriptions are maintained, giving students access to current and relevant professional literature. Attention for new acquisitions will be focused on supporting the social work practitioner as specialist.

The Indiana University East Office of Information Technology deliberately and consistently upgrades and maintains five computer labs for student use. Smart classrooms are available with a full range of information technology capabilities. Additional technology can be accessed through the Library and the Teaching and Learning Center. Attention will be focused on increasing the availability of smart classrooms and additional technology to support the development of technology skills in graduate students and university faculty.

Additional resources: Faculty and Clerical Support

Additional resources include 2.5 FTE faculty added to the program. Full-time positions will be tenure track. The .5 FTE position will have teaching, field and student service responsibilities. The program will also require additional expenditures, as indicated, for general supplies, marketing and travel.

Though no new resources beyond the above anticipated acquisitions are necessary for initiating the program, continued attention to library resources and information technology will be paramount to maintaining and expanding quality graduate services.

5. Other Program Strengths

This program provides access to professional social work education to individuals in east central Indiana, as well as west central Ohio. With a predictable part-time evening schedule, human service employees can organize groups, schedule appointments, arrange for alternative coverage, and efficiently engage in education while maintaining agency requirements. Employers will find it easier to negotiate time and expectations with employees who seek the MSW degree. As a cohort model, students will engage and interact with the same set of peers over a three year period creating the potential for a powerful, enriched, supportive learning environment. Also, as part of a system school, the curriculum is approved, developed, reviewed, and assessed by Indiana University School of Social Work faculty.

B. PROGRAM RATIONALE

Institutional Factors

Relationship to Institutional Mission: The program is compatible with the Mission, Vision and Strategic Initiatives of Indiana University East, as approved by the Faculty Senate 01/04. An IU East Faculty Senate Resolution, passed 05/04, endorses graduate education, as an appropriate component of the mission of Indiana University East. The mission addresses the institution's responsibility to provide opportunities for persons of diverse backgrounds to exercise life-long learning for their personal well-being and that of the community. Enabling the professional development of the social service agency employees is essential to this mission. This provides initially for the well-being of the graduate students but ultimately results in improved quality of life for social service agency clients, the community, and the social work practitioners.

The Indiana University East strategic initiatives address raising the educational aspirations of citizens, employers and employees within the region. They specify that IU East broaden and revise academic opportunities and their modes of delivery. The addition of graduate education to the region provides practical impetus for increased aspirations and on-going professional development in education. Without such programming, individuals seeking advanced social work degrees are required to travel great distances to avail themselves of a graduate program. This deprives them of having a locally accessible educational community actively involved in the improvement of regional social services and proximity to resources that support the notion of empowering community for improvement.

Planning Process: The Chancellor at IU East, the Dean of the IU School of Social Work, and the Faculty Senate of the Indiana University School of Social Work agree that a Master of Social Work degree program is appropriate to the mission of the IU East campus and to the mission of the School, and meets the needs of the community. Explorations of the possibility of a master's degree program in Social Work began in the fall, 2005. Discussions with the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at IU East and the Dean of IUSSW were initiated in 2007. A presentation was made to the IUSSW Faculty Senate in October 2007, expressing the interest and intent to offer the MSW on the IU East campus. In response to questions and concerns raised by the faculty, a key informant needs assessment was completed with results presented to the Senate in December, 2007. On December 20, 2007, Dean Patchner of the School of Social Work submitted a letter to IU East announcing the intent of IUSSW to offer the MSW program on the East campus beginning in the fall 2008, provided all required approvals are obtained.

Program Impact on Other Facets of the Institution: Additional faculty will be added as program demands warrant. Indiana University School of Social Work is committed to this investment. It is anticipated that other academic units on the East Campus will develop and offer graduate courses as a result of the success of this program. New faculty will teach undergraduate courses, in addition to graduate courses. Students in the undergraduate social work program will continue to be taught by full-time faculty. The program provides a clear path for undergraduates who want to move into graduate education early in their professional career. It will enhance the reputation of the Social Work Program within the practice community. It will strengthen the reputation of Indiana University East within the community. There is no further anticipated impact.

Student Demand

It is estimated that thirty-three part-time students will enroll in the MSW program at IU East. An additional five students would be added to the cohort through advanced standing status in year two. It is expected that 35 students will complete the MSW program at the end of year three.

Students would complete two courses per semester including summer sessions. In some semesters, practicum hours would also be completed.

Table 1 outlines credit hour generation by year for this program.

Transferability

This program is delivered by the Indiana University School of Social Work. The curriculum and all courses have been developed and approved by the Indiana University School of Social Work faculty. The program and curriculum are accredited through the Council on Social Work Education. Required courses and elective courses may be taken at alternative Indiana University locations with permission of the Executive Director of Masters Programs, Indiana University School of Social Work.

Regional, State and National Factors

Comparable Programs: No comparable program exists in the Indiana University East geographic region. The closest existing in-state program, at IUPUI, requires minimally an hour commute, one way. The closest Ohio program is a part-time program offered by The Ohio State University in collaboration with Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. OSU requires Indiana residents to pay out of state tuition, making cost a prohibitive factor for most students.

External Agencies: Indiana University East is accredited by the North Central Association. The Social Work Program is accredited by the Council on Social

Work Education. The program adheres to the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

C. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND ASSESSMENT

With the approval of the program, several marketing steps would occur in rapid succession. A marketing brochure will be disseminated to social service agencies in the Indiana University East service area, newspaper advertisements will appear in the service area, information sessions will be held at IU East, and direct contact will be initiated with individuals who have expressed interest in a MSW at IU East. Applications for the Master of Social Work will be accepted as soon as the program is approved, with the first cohort admitted for the fall, 2008.

Program assessment is a critical and continuous process in the School of Social Work. The School is recognized as a national leader in program assessment. During its most recent re-accreditation review by CSWE, the School submitted an assessment project in lieu of the traditional self-study. The MSW program at IU East will be fully incorporated in the existing IUSSW assessment and review process.

