

ILLINOIS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR'S LICENSE (PEL)  
WITH SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM



Aurora University's School of Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible to apply for an Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL) with a School Social Work Endorsement.

School Social Work interns are required to complete a two-semester internship obtaining a minimum of 600 hours in a school setting with students from Pre-Kindergarten through age 22 and that is approved by the School of Social Work Department. School social work coursework is completed concurrently with the internship requirement, as they provide students with the content necessary to perform the role of a school social worker. Thus, the internship provides the environment where students can immediately apply the material, develop their skills, and learn from firsthand experiences.

School Social Placement Expectations
<b>Required Field Hours - minimum 600</b>
<b>Supervisor Credentials:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master of Social Work (MSW) and a Professional Educator License with an active School Social Work Endorsement (PEL: SSW) or Type 73.</li> <li>• Supervisors must have a minimum of 2 years post-MSW experience in the field.</li> </ul>
<b>Supervisor Expectations:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide 1 hour/week intentional supervision that is structured, planned, and provides for opportunities for ongoing feedback outside of the day to day supervision</li> <li>• Complete the Midterm and Final Evaluation</li> <li>• Complete the Learning Agreement</li> <li>• Approve Time Logs</li> <li>• Maintain communication throughout the internship with the student and the student's Field Liaison regarding expectations, concerns, areas of growth, areas that need improvement, etc.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in at least one site visit conducted by the Field Liaison</li> </ul>

ILLINOIS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR'S LICENSE (PEL)  
WITH SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

<b>Student Intern Expectations:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage in experiences in a school setting with students from Pre-Kindergarten through age 22</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand and learn the role of a school social worker</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply coursework to internship and engage in evidence-based interventions</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Learning Agreement and Time Logs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Midterm and Final Evaluation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain communication throughout the internship with the Field Supervisor and Field Liaison regarding expectations, concerns, strengths, areas that need improvement, etc.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in at least one site visit conducted by the Field Liaison</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Field Placement Dates:</b> Students are expected to begin their internship when the district begins the school year and to end their internship when the school district ends their school year, which will be past the end of AU's spring semester. This is assumed if/when a student receives a stipend from the district. If the position is unpaid, though, and the district doesn't want to extend liability insurance to the student after AU's graduation ceremony, the student may plan for termination to occur on the first Friday of May.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please connect with Emily Kath if you are unclear on your End Date.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**\*\* If students wish to complete their internship in a non-traditional setting, such as a charter school or therapeutic/day school, it must be approved by the School SW Track Coordinator. \*\***

**\*\* If students have approval from their district to complete an employment-based, school social work internship, the student must be in a paid role that allows flexibility for the student to complete the following tasks: attendance at domain, special education eligibility, and IEP meetings; completion of all social work-related IEP paperwork, including Social Developmental Studies, Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans, and IEP goals; additionally, the student needs to speak to their role in the RtI or MTSS processes, including Tier 1 screening and providing Tier 1-3 interventions. There are also mandates that SSWers are heavily involved in helping districts meet, particularly McKinney-Vento Law, Erin's Law, and Ann Marie's Law. Students also must engage in crisis management and intervention, as well as participation on structured educational teams. \*\***

Please direct questions and concerns regarding the aforementioned information to:

Emily Kath, MSW, LCSW, MAEL  
School Social Work Coordinator  
[ekath@aurora.edu](mailto:ekath@aurora.edu)  
630.947.8935