FALL 2015 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A. University Requirements

To be admitted to CSUN as a graduate student, applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college.
- Be in good standing at the last institution attended.
- Have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) or in the last 60 semester/90 quarter units of their undergraduate degree. If the applicant is still in the process of completing his or her degree, we will look at the last 60 chronological units. Lower-division courses or courses taken in extension, after obtaining the undergraduate degree, will be excluded from the GPA calculation.

B. Bachelor’s Degree

To be considered for admission to the MSW program, applicants must have graduated with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college, prior to Fall 2015. While a major in Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, Liberal Arts, or a related field is preferred, other majors will be considered for admission.

C. Grade Point Average

Ideally, applicants should have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above for the last 60 units of undergraduate or graduate course work. Applicants whose cumulative GPA is below 3.0 may be considered for admission under a conditional status if they pass the Graduate Record Examination (see section G of the Admission Requirements). Lower-division courses or courses taken in extension after obtaining the bachelor’s degree will be excluded from the GPA calculation.

D. Application

Please refer to the application checklist for details about the required forms and documents. Please submit all required forms and documentation by December 1, 2014 for priority review or January 14, 2015 for regular review.

E. International Admissions

International applicants are welcome to apply to the CSUN MSW program provided that they meet all of the University and Department admission requirements. These requirements include completion of the CSUN graduate application at www.csumentor.edu (including payment of the application fee), an acceptable score on the TOEFL exam (see section D of the Application Instructions for information) or a comparable exam, Affidavit of Financial Support, official transcripts from all universities/colleges attended, and official English translations of all transcripts. International applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the International Admissions Office at 818-677-3760. Application materials and documents should be mailed to:

International Admissions
California State University, Northridge
18111 Nordhoff Street
Northridge, CA 91330-8207

F. Upper Division Writing Proficiency Examination (UDWPE)

The Upper Division Writing Proficiency Examination (UDWPE) is required for incoming graduate students who have not passed it previously as undergraduates. The UDWPE is not required prior to acceptance into the MSW Program. However, applicants accepted into the MSW Program for Fall 2015 must take the
UDWPE by October 1, 2015. This requirement can be waived if the applicant or student receives a score of 3 or higher on the analytical writing portion of the GRE. For information and registration please go to www.csun.edu/udwpe/.

G. Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

All applicants with a cumulative undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) below a 3.0 are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in order to achieve Classified Status. Applicants must pass one of the three sections on the GRE by receiving a score in the fiftieth percentile on the verbal or quantitative portions, or a 4.5 or above in the analytical writing portion of the GRE. For students accepted into the MSW Program, the GRE must be taken by October 1, 2015. For information and registration please go to www.gre.org.

H. Conditionally Classified and Classified Status

Once accepted into the MSW Program, students will be categorized as either Conditionally Classified or Classified. The following are definitions of each status:

- **Conditionally Classified**: Students who do not meet all University requirements for admission may be accepted “conditionally” subject to meeting various University and departmental requirements. Students who are classified as “conditional” are required to achieve full “classified” standing prior to completing twelve (12) units of graduate work in the MSW program.

- **Classified**: Students who meet all University and departmental requirements as outlined in the current University catalog (http://www.csun.edu/catalog).

I. Financial Aid

Students wishing to be considered for financial aid awarded by the University or seeking information about scholarships and other financial aid resources available should refer to the Financial Aid website: http://www.csun.edu/financialaid or contact the Financial Aid Office at (818) 677-4085.

J. Residency Classification

Please refer to the University catalog (http://www.csun.edu/catalog/policies/determination-of-residency-for-tuition-purposes/) for specific rules, exceptions, and information about eligibility for California resident classification. Generally, an applicant must have established and maintained permanent residence in California for at least one year prior to the applicable residence determination date (September 20, 2015 for Fall 2015 admission). Proof of residence requires evidence of both physical presence and intent to remain in California at least one year before the residence determination date.