To be considered for the MSW Program, applicants must:

1. Have a grade point average of 2.5 or more (on a 4.0 scale) and meet the general requirements for admission to the School of Graduate Studies at Alabama A&M University.

2. Have a Bachelors Degree from an accredited College or University.

3. Have official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work.

4. Write two essays not to exceed 500 words each on the following topics:
   a) Why do you wish to pursue the MSW degree and become a professional social worker?
   b) Identify a major contemporary social problem that is of concern to the profession of social work; state why, in your opinion, it is a problem for the profession, and how you would intervene to ameliorate and/or eradicate this problem.

5. Have three letters of reference forms (included in application packet) that reflect the applicant’s academic and professional potential, and ethical and value orientation.

6. Have a broad liberal arts background with a minimum of 24 credits in the social behavior and natural sciences and humanities.

   It is recommended that the major undergraduate preparation of applicants should be in one of the following:
   - Social Work
   - Psychology, Sociology, or other Social Sciences
   - Other human service areas (health sciences, teaching, nursing, special education)
   - Liberal arts (e.g., humanities, philosophy, history, literature)

While there is no requirement for a specific undergraduate major to qualify for graduate study in social work, applicants are expected to have had preparation in the liberal arts, usually through undergraduate coursework in the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and life sciences. At least 24 credits are required in these areas.
CHARACTER AND PERSONAL FITNESS FOR THE PROFESSION

The Admissions Committee requires that candidates submit two essays and three references, which are used to gauge their fitness for the program and profession. The essays should provide information about the candidate's background, qualification, experience, and reasons for choosing social work, perceptions on the role of the profession, and perceptions of self as a social worker. The essays help the Admissions Committee in gaining some insights into the motivation, self-awareness, and value assumptions of the candidate, as well as their ability to plan, organize, conceptualize and write.

Candidates must also submit with their application references from three individuals. These individuals may be former professors, supervisors, colleagues, or others who are, or have been in a position to evaluate aspects of the candidates' personal and intellectual capabilities — among them responsibility in doing, and completing academic or work assignments, dedication, sensitivity, emotional maturity, self-reliance, flexibility, leadership ability, and capability to develop positive relationships.

WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Work experience (either paid or volunteer) and field practice are also considered in the student’s application. It is preferred that applicants have some work or volunteer experience.

ADVANCED STANDING

Applicants with a B.S.W. degree from a CSWE accredited program, and a minimum GPA of 3.00 in overall courses including upper division social work courses may apply for advanced standing. The B.S.W. degree must have been granted within five (5) years of date of application to the Advanced Standing program. Qualified applicants will be required to take 39 semester hours, instead of 60 hours required for the two-year program. Of these 39 hours, 8 are required in field instruction.

The Advanced Standing program must be completed in three (3) consecutive semesters; beginning in the summer with three (3) required courses.
Attention!!

Please note the changes in Applications for Admissions

School of Graduate Studies Application Fee
Online Application Fee -- $45.00
http://www.aamu.edu/graduatestudies/Apply.html

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Not Required