

BASW Student Field Practicum

Some important questions to ask when contacting an agency

1. Do you take BASW level students for practicum/internships?
2. Do you have a BASW or MSW level social worker on staff who can provide at least 1 hour of supervision per week? How long have they been working at your agency?
3. If the answer to number 2 is no, then ask if they have social workers with their BASW or MSW on the agency's Board or in an affiliated program who can provide supervision.
4. On average students need to work approximately 14 hours per week. Can your agency accommodate that many hours for students?
5. Does your agency require its own background check or other onboarding items? If so, how long does that usually take to process before I can begin my practicum? Do I have to pay for the background check or other requirements?
6. (If needed) Does your agency offer the opportunity to work evening and/or weekend hours, or remotely/virtually?

Some important questions to ask at your agency interview

Do your homework. Ask specific questions. Know the agency. Dress professionally.

1. What are some learning opportunities for BASW students at your agency?
2. What are some of the tasks/projects that previous practicum students have accomplished at your agency?
3. Do you require your students to work a consistent schedule or are you flexible in terms of days/hours and remote/virtual work?
4. Will I be able to have direct client contact?
5. How many different individuals will I be able to work with while at the agency? What are their professional backgrounds?
6. Will I be able to attend board meetings and other organizational events?
7. Do you have any training materials that I could review after our interview?

Now it's the agency's turn!

Be prepared to answer the following questions. Do your homework. Know the agency.

1. What do you hope to gain from this practicum?
2. Why do you want to become a social worker?
3. What type of social work do you want to do once you graduate?
4. Why are you specifically interested in doing a practicum at our agency?
5. What do you know about our agency?
6. What types of social work or social work related volunteer experience have you had?