Your MSW will give you the skills you need to create positive change in the lives of others. The Military Concentration will equip you with specific strategies for helping individuals and their families who face challenges unique to military service.

A program that meets a pressing social need

Each day our country’s 2.2 million service members and 30 million veterans—along with their families—face personal and professional challenges that are specific to military life. Our Master of Social Work with a Military Concentration prepares you to work with current and former military personnel and their families to address a wide range of physical, mental and psychosocial issues. The School of Social Work honors the service and recognizes the sacrifice of this extraordinary group of our fellow citizens. This program is designed to ensure that service members and their families receive excellent care from providers who understand their distinctive needs.

An innovative, evidence-based approach

The Military Concentration is available to current MSW candidates who have completed their foundation year. You’ll learn how to engage and assess members of the military and their families and intervene successfully to meet their needs. You’ll study innovative, evidence-based treatments for PTSD, anxiety, depression, substance abuse, suicidal ideation and traumatic brain injury. All courses are taught on campus and online by leading faculty and military experts. You’ll enjoy access to a variety of field placement options where you will work directly with military populations. You’ll be ready to provide competent service to this important population and to advocate for its social and economic well-being.

“This program addresses the critical needs of military personnel, veterans and their families. There has never been a more important time to address these issues. We need more social workers who understand military culture and can provide high quality care to individuals and families facing unique issues.”

Ellen Belluomini
Lecturer and Coordinator, Military Social Work Program
An ideal program for the busy professional

You can earn the Master of Social Work with a Military Concentration in two years of full-time study, or in three years on our highly flexible part-time track. All courses are offered online—and in daytime, evening and weekend classes on our campus in River Forest and at the University Center of Lake County in Grayslake. Our advanced standing option allows students who hold a Bachelor of Social Work from a CSWE-accredited institution to complete the MSW in only nine months. You may even be eligible for GI Bill education benefits.

Prepare to advance in a fast-growing field

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the need for social work professionals who can meet the specific needs of military and veteran populations will increase significantly in the coming decade. The Military Times reports an urgent demand for civilian providers who are equipped to address this community’s physical, psychological and social challenges. The MSW with a Military Concentration will prepare you for significant service in a range of settings: on a base, in the field, in military hospitals, at a veterans service organizations or in private practice. You will be highly prepared for rewarding service in one of the most in-demand sectors of social work.

Our goal: your success

“The professors at Dominican are deeply invested in your success. They really take the time to get to know you and guide you down the professional path of your choice. They support and challenge you to be your very best.”

Jennifer Morales
School of Social Work Graduate