



## ***New Academic Program Proposal (NAPP) for Master of Social Work***

Presentation to Academic & Student Affairs Committee  
Board of Trustees

December 4, 2025



# Features of the Program

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- The program is open to candidates with undergraduate degrees in any field.
- Program is “Majority Online (Hybrid)” with all on-ground classes offered in the evenings to accommodate working professionals.
- The program prepares students for multi-level licensure with potential to focus on clinical or organizational leadership.
- The program will be accredited through the Council for Social Work Education.



# Need for the Program

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- Meeting workforce demands: Upper Cumberland region faces severe shortages of licensed social workers in mental health, addiction recovery, healthcare, and family services.
- THEC identifies behavioral health and social services as priority workforce areas; MSW-level social work roles are projected to grow 20%+ statewide.
- Strategic Alignment with Institutional Mission: Expanding graduate education while meeting workforce demands in behavioral health and social services, synergistic with Center for Addiction Prevention and Support (CAPS).



# Targeted Student Population

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- Students from any undergraduate major interested in mental health, policy advocacy, addiction recovery, child and family services, aging populations, or community development.
- Residents of the Upper Cumberland region and other rural or underserved areas of Tennessee who seek to build careers that serve their local communities.
- College graduates of Social Work programs from other institutions seeking an Advanced Standing option (30 hours).



# Enrollment Projections

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Enrollment (# of FTE)	10	30	50	70	80
# of Graduates	-	-	10	25	30

## Instructional Cost & Revenue Projections

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Expenses	\$751,995	\$787,093	\$763,782	\$850,243	\$863,490
Revenues	\$953,740	\$1,305,859	\$854,047	\$1,180,383	\$1,470,686

- A \$2.5 million grant will fund the first three years.
- Four faculty members will be hired.
- 27 new courses have been developed for this program.



