Practicum Education

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck

School of Social Work

Practicum Hour FAQs for ISW Students

Students are required to complete a minimum of 1100 practicum hours through internship with a Community-Based Placement and Virtual Practicum (if applicable). Community-based practicum hours cannot be applied toward classroom practicum hours. 450 hours must be successfully completed between 591 and the end of 593. 650 hours must be successfully completed between 591 and the end of 593.

Students are required to complete a minimum of 100 practicum hours through attendance and participation with their practicum class, and orientation and evidence-based intervention training (if applicable). These practicum hours cannot be applied to the community-based practicum hours. Students are expected to attend all their practicum classes.

Agencies and students are expected to create a schedule of 16 hours per week in 591 and 593 and 24 hours per week in 691 and 693. (SUMMER Semester: students may need to increase their weekly practicum hours in order to complete the minimum hours required).

We are aware that full attendance with no days off at internship may exceed the minimum practicum hours. In addition to the learning experiences provided, additional hours create a buffer for students in recognition of university holidays and unavoidable occasional absences from practicum that may occur.

Students, even if they have met the minimum practicum hour requirements, are still expected to maintain a consistent schedule for practicum and are not allowed to end their practicum placements prior to the last day of practicum education. This is aligned with CSWE Competency 1 regarding professionalism and ensures continuity of care for clients.

Individual questions regarding scheduling and practicum hours should be addressed with your practicum liaison.

Practicum Education Semester/Course	Minimum Community Based Practicum Hours Campus- Based Program*	Minimum Community Based Practicum Hours For Three Semester Community Based Internships	Expected Days/Hours per week In Community Based Practicum Placement	Classroom/Training/Orientation Hours
Semester 1 Course 591	210	210	2 days/16 hours 2 days/14 hours (VP)	UPC 40** VAC 40
Semester 2 Course 593	240	240	2 days/16 hours (all)	30
Semester 3 and 4 Course 691 and 693	650 between 691 and 693	650 between 691 and 693	3 days/24 hours (all)	15
Total	1100	1100		100

**Students achieve their classroom hours through class attendance, participation in Practicum Orientation, and EBI Trainings (10 hours)