



**St. Elizabeth University of Health and Social Work, n.o. in
Bratislava
Bachelor's study programme: social work**

Competences, Knowledge, Skills

COMPETENCY

Students of the bachelor's degree programme Social Work at St. Elizabeth University, n.o. acquire the competence to assist in carrying out professional activities, such as assistance in the exercise of rights and legally protected interests of clients, they master the procedure in matters of social services and socio-legal protection and social guardianship. They are familiar with the organisation of public administration bodies (state and local government) and know their competences in the field of social protection, prevention and intervention. The future social work assistants have cultural-communicative competences, especially in the field of social communication, and know the process of self-concept. They can deal competently with interpersonal conflict situations. They uphold ethical and moral standards in the exercise of their competencies. They learn to create a creative working climate with the implementation of innovative elements. They reflect on cultural differences in social cognition and apply a holistic thinking style. From personal qualities, they promote situational determinants of prosocial behaviour. They train in conducting discussions at a professional level, the ability to keep in touch with developments in the discipline of social work at the level of the knowledge acquired in the first degree.

The key competences of a student of the Bachelor's degree programme include:

- "the ability to communicate and collaborate - the ability to communicate consciously and to contribute actively and creatively in group processes,
- Creative problem solving - the ability to recognize problems and solve them creatively accordingly,
- independence and efficiency - the ability to plan, implement and control the work process and its results independently,
- Ability to accept responsibility - the ability to accept co-responsibility within an appropriate framework,
- the ability to think and learn - the ability to further develop one's own learning process and to think in a contextual and systemic way,
- Reasoning and evaluation - the ability to make substantive judgements and critically evaluate own, shared and other people's ways of working and outcomes.

The competences listed do not stand independently of each other, but are intertwined and complementary. Thus, we consider the following knowledge and skills to be the basis of competence, while the superstructural part consists of attitudes and values, which are influenced by the personality of a particular individual, the social environment in which he or she lives and other conditioning influences. We will focus on the individual components of the competence in more detail in relation to the professional activities carried out by the future social worker. In relation to the professional activities of social work assistants, it is primarily knowledge that relates to the handling of information

in problem solving. This means being able to identify personal and social problems and negative environmental influences on an individual, a family, a group, the ability to name individual phenomena, events, to arrange them according to certain aspects, to recognize their interrelations, to be able to detect the regularities of their occurrence, to make forecasts.

KNOWLEDGE

The individual courses of the Social Work study programme at the SEU, n.o. in Bratislava teach future social work assistants knowledge from scientific disciplines that complement their knowledge in the provision of social assistance according to type, such as addictions, missiology, social psychiatry, social anthropology, practical spirituality and others... The future social work assistant will be able to specify the provision of appropriate social assistance, e.g. in the field of social services according to their definition, then according to type, scope, and form in public and non-public providers. They can assess the nature of the problem of an individual, family or community, provide basic information on the possibilities of solving the problem and, if necessary, recommend and refer further professional assistance. Is proficient in the conceptual and categorical apparatus of social work in relation to and in connection with the interdisciplinary disciplines that are integral to the social work curriculum. These are in particular the disciplines of philosophy, ethics, axiology, psychology, human biology, pedagogy - especially applied, sociology. At the level of a social work assistant, he/she knows the basics of law, the philosophy of selected laws (social security law, labour law, family law, civil law, administrative law, socio-legal protection of children and social guardianship).

Can provide basic counselling (first contact counselling) in the field of family support, crisis resolution and early intervention, also through telecommunication means. Specifies and recommends e.g. social services to address an individual's adverse social situation due to a severe disability, adverse health condition or due to reaching retirement age.

Acquires knowledge in the field of measures to eliminate, mitigate and prevent the deepening or recurrence of disorders of psychological development, physical development and social development of the child and the adult natural person and is able to provide assistance depending on the severity of the disorder and the situation in which the child or adult natural person finds himself/herself. He or she has sufficient knowledge to be familiar with a set of measures to ensure the child's protection, upbringing and all-round development in his or her natural family environment, as well as in the alternative environment of a child who cannot be brought up in his or her own family. The bachelor student learns basic (introductory) methods of social work also in the provision of social services in the group and community (elements of group and community social work). He/she assists in community rehabilitation, ensures cooperation of communities, which from the social work point of view are mainly understood as family, municipality, educational institutions, employment service providers and health care providers. They direct the activities of members of the local community towards self-help solutions to social problems within the local community.

During her studies, she assists in the preparation of a community plan for the municipality and the city, as well as in the preparation of prevention and resocialization programs. He is familiar with the possible risks of social interventions. He/she is proficient in the creation, management and archiving of controlled documentation of the recipient of social services, while maintaining the protection of personal data. Participates in the development of the individual plan of the recipient of social services and cooperates in its rediagnosis with regard to the comprehensive assessment of the degree of dependence of the individual (Barthel index). Disposes abilities in the field of social rehabilitation,

development of work skills of the recipient of social services. Arranges interpretation and personal assistance when needed. Subordinates any performance of professional activities to quality conditions according to legal standards and criteria.

SKILLS

The student of the study programme of the first degree (bachelor) of higher education has the knowledge that entitles him/her to perform professional skills at the level of a social work assistant. In the case of skills, it is the ability to react in a certain situation, to be able to provide information, advice, guidance to a client, to solve his/her social problem. For the profession of social worker, one of the important goals is to build desirable attitudes. Its evaluative dimensions form the intersection at which the social worker decides what the client's particular situation is and whether he or she is willing and able to provide help to the client, whether he or she is able to see the problem from the client's perspective. Due to the nature of social work, professional performance is unconditionally bound to the observance of the necessary ethical principles in the specific actions and activities of the social worker, which is related to the values and value system of the social worker.



**St. Elizabeth University of Health and Social Work, n.o. in
Bratislava
Master's study programme: social work**

Competences, Knowledge, Skills

COMPETENCY

Students of the study programme Social Work in the second stage of higher education at the VŠZaSP St. Elizabeth, n.o. in Bratislava have the knowledge, skills and competences that entitle them to manage, decide, control and evaluate, develop and innovate social assistance systems, types of social services, professional and specialized activities performed at the level of a social worker. As social work assistants working with different target groups of social work, they use specific professional competences. Of the existing specific types of professional competences, they acquire competences during their studies, e.g. in the so-called distinctive competences, interpersonal competences, team competences, functional competences and, in particular, person-oriented competences, which are competences in which the emphasis is placed on communication, interaction, cooperation or negotiation with other persons. In the context of profiling the professional competences of social workers at the St. Elizabeth's University of Social Work in Bratislava in relation to the target groups of social work, the most frequently used classification criteria for these target groups include health status, age, social status, normality, or marginalization. Applying these and other criteria, we can define the basic target groups of social work of our students, which include people on the run, citizens with disabilities, family, seniors, unemployed citizens, people in material need, people without shelter, people during and after imprisonment, drug users and drug addicts, ethnic and other minorities.

KNOWLEDGE

On the basis of their studies at SEU, n.o. in Bratislava, students of the Social Work study programme acquire the knowledge to provide specialised social counselling in the field of socio-legal protection of children and social guardianship, social services, employment and other areas of social work. They master the principles of integration and migration policies and participate in their development. They create and evaluate specialised programmes of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention and re-socialisation of drug and other addictions, analyse and create strategies at the national and regional level, coordinate the activities of the multi-professional team for the field of addictions and other socio-pathological phenomena. During the Master's degree, the social work assistant takes courses that give him/her knowledge in designing and programming social projects. The future social worker learns to master selected socio-economic theories that influence or are related to the development of social work and give rise to new social services as well as new methods of social protection. The future social worker has knowledge of the processes of microeconomics and macroeconomics.

During the master's studies, he learns to identify the differences between economic theories and economics, i.e. real application activities. It has knowledge of the basic elements of economic activities, the basis of which is the satisfaction of human needs. It learns to master the basic principles of management and redistribution of resources, whether in the form of material or immaterial goods, as products of human activity. It acquires the necessary legal knowledge and mastery of legislation in the field of the social economy and has skills in setting up social enterprises as a tool for reducing unemployment among disadvantaged citizens.

On the basis of the study of individual subjects, the student knows active and passive instruments of labour market policy, market laws, the reasons for the harmonization of environmental and social market regulation, mechanisms of competitiveness from different perspectives, the laws of the development of market capital and its impact on, for example, the pension system and other social protection systems of the country's population. Such a student of social work is familiar with the important economic and social dimensions and maintaining a balance between them. He or she has knowledge of the concept of poverty in terms of indicative, interpretative and explanatory schemes (absolute, subjective, relative, intergenerational, spatial, etc.). Has knowledge of EU integration processes in terms of negative and positive effects on the development of public policies, particularly in the following participatory areas (social, health, environmental, cultural, educational, economic, etc.). Is familiar with external political relations and the impact of globalisation on the development of the market and the domestic economy and socialisation processes. It promotes appropriate and adequate participation of civil society in the framework of cooperation between the state and the non-governmental sector.

SKILLS

By studying the individual subjects of the study programme Social Work at St. Elizabeth University, n.o. in Bratislava, students acquire the skill to distinguish individual counselling methods and techniques. They create conceptual, methodological and analytical materials in the field of social work, in social service institutions or in institutions for social protection of children and social curatorship, as well as in other sectoral institutions in which social work has its status (health care institutions, penal and imprisonment institutions, asylum and integration centres, etc. They are able to apply legal standards in the fields of health, asylum and criminal law, as well as social, security, labour, family, civil and administrative law.

After completing the master's degree at the SEU, n.o. in Bratislava, the future social worker acquires the skills to apply the theory of networking in the field of social protection and is able to evaluate its effectiveness, efficiency and impact on the social development of society. Such a social worker has managerial skills and can apply in practice the theory of management and its main processes (leadership, organizing, planning, control). It uses methods of informal on-the-job training (OJT on the job training) such as coaching, counselling, mentoring controlling, supervision, which deepen the quality of professional and specialized activities in social work and at the same time eliminate the emergence of possible risk factors. Knows and can apply the principles of personnel management as a subsystem of human resources development. Has practical experience in monologic and dialogic presentation. Uses complex interpersonal communication skills in practice. Can take constructive argumentative stances using elements of reflective and reflexive thinking on the developmental tendencies of social work and its areas of penetration. Has skills and knowledge in collective bargaining and is familiar with the issues of the Economic and Social Council and understands the principles of tripartism. The social worker promotes and puts into practice the National Quality

Programme of the Slovak Republic. The social worker uses information and communication technologies to present social work in the media. The social worker knows the processes, methods and means of online marketing of services as intangible products of human activity. The social worker constantly applies the principles of scientific thinking; masters research methods and techniques and is competent to interpret the data obtained in accordance with the protection of personal data.