

Herzing University

MSW Program

Field Placement Preference Form

When choosing agencies in your community to discuss with the Director of Field Education, students are encouraged to consider the following information when choosing agencies/organizations in your community for your field practicum placement.

Agency may differ in their policies and procedures for screening employees/students that serve their client population. **Agency considerations may include:**

- Differing levels of required background checks, e.g., criminal history, drug screens, credit histories
- Differing policies regarding criminal histories.
- Differing professional dress codes.
- May or may not require vaccinations
- Some settings may require PPE
- Some settings may require transporting clients (Herzing does not allow students to transport clients)
- Past client or members of immediate family have received services from the agency may not be accepted for placement. (Dual relationships should be avoided, if possible.)
- Training or experience requirements
- May or may not accept medical marijuana use
- May or may not employ MSWs that could serve as Practicum Field Instructors. (This is not necessarily a barrier, but students should be cognizant of field instructor requirements and strategies for locating one in their community).

We all have life challenges and MSW students are encouraged to use their strengths and seek their interest preference when choosing a field placement.

You'll be required to gain approval from the Director of Field Education before directly contacting an agency. Students are encouraged to reflect on the considerations below and answer these questions for self-awareness and decision making. **Personal Considerations may include:**

- Do certain client populations or hearing about certain harms from clients, trigger past pain or trauma(s) in a way that may be harmful to you or cause student transference to the client?
- If so, do you have a plan of self-care strategies?
- What skills do you hope to gain in your field education practicum placement?
- What types of assets and strengths will you be able to bring to the field practicum agency and clients?
- Are there time or scheduling constraints to consider when choosing an agency?
 - Are there client populations which you know you do not wish to work with?