CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF FIELD INSTRUCTORS

Field instructors are nominated by the agency and approved by the School to provide practicum instruction to students. Field instructors select specific student assignments and instruct students in the skills necessary to fulfill these assignments in relation to the student’s course work.

Field instructors for foundation students should have an MSW. However, field instructors with a BSW and several years of human services experience may be approved. Field instructors for concentration students must have an MSW and two years post-MSW human service experience. It is expected that field instructors have had formal training and experience in one of the school’s concentration areas. Typically, the student is assigned to a field instructor on the basis of the student’s major concentration choice. The instruction of students can be shared between various agency personnel, but the School-appointed field instructor assumes overall responsibility for field instruction.

Field instructors must be on-site and on duty for at least 10 hours per week for foundation students and 16 hours per week for concentration students. During those periods when field instructor availability is not possible, other qualified staff members must be available for backup or consultation to the students.

Field instructors are strongly encouraged to participate in Field Instructor training provided by the Clark Atlanta University, Georgia State University, and University of Georgia Field Education Collaborative. Detailed information about field instructor training workshops will be provided on a regular basis to all agencies that have a student assigned to them.

Persons nominated to be field instructors should be members of an agency staff who show:

1. evidence of competence in the practice of social work
2. concern for continuing professional development
3. commitment to the teaching function of social work education
4. possess the interest in and have the time available for the regular instruction of students