



**METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY<sup>SM</sup>**  
**OF DENVER**  
**Department of Social Work**

**Criminal History & the Social Work Profession Information**

The practice of Social Work as a profession may seem far off to you. However, before embarking on this program of study, it is important for you to consider whether you are going into a field that will allow you to do the work you have in mind.

If you have ever been convicted of **ANY** felony and/or of abuse, exploitation, or other offense of a child or an elder, we want you to be aware of potential barriers to you as a social work student or a professional social worker. These potential barriers are as follows:

- a. difficulty or inability to find a field placement (field placement is required to graduate)
- b. difficulty or inability to obtain social work licensure (rules and process for determination vary by state)
- c. difficulty or inability to obtain employment as a social worker (rules vary by agency)

The BSSW Program does not perform background checks on its students. However, it is extremely likely that you will encounter background checks required by agencies during your field placement process.

If you have been convicted of the above mentioned offenses, the Department of Social Work at Metropolitan State University Denver does not prevent you from entering the BSSW program based on these reasons. We urge you to speak with the BSSW Program Director prior to admission to discuss your unique situation and help you to navigate these potential barriers, but again the Program Director cannot offer any guarantees regarding the above potential restrictions upon your practice.

If you are accepted into the BSSW Program, we urge you to speak with the Office of Field Education to discuss your situation. The Office of Field Education will work closely with you in an effort to help secure a placement. Again, the Office of Field Education and the BSSW Program cannot guarantee a placement.