

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST FOR PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:
BACHELOR OF ARTS, SOCIAL WORK CERTIFICATE**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to change the name of the Bachelor of Arts, Social Work certificate to the Bachelor of Social Work.

The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this request.

Reason for proposed change: The current name of the degree does not represent the professional social work degree obtained by the student, which is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The current name of *Social Work Certificate* is an artifact of old naming conventions for professional degrees which is no longer accurate and is confusing to students and employers.

In consultation with other Social Work programs in the state of Iowa, the degree name revision aligns with other program degree names as shown in the list below. The University of Iowa was consulted on 2/15/2021 and have no objections to the degree name revision (letter of support below).

- Mount Mercy University: Bachelor of Arts with a major in Social Work.
- Northwestern College: Bachelor of Arts with a major in Social Work.
- St. Ambrose University: Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
- University of Iowa: Bachelor of Arts with a major in Social Work
- Loras College: Bachelor of Arts with a major in Social Work
- Grand View University: Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
- Dordt University: Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

Effect on program configuration: There will be no changes to configuration, degree requirements or curriculum as a result of this change.

Effect on students: The degree name revision will benefit students as it is less confusing for them and for future employers. It also more accurately reflects the professional nature of the degree and is aligned with Iowa Social Work Licensure (LBSW) and the accrediting organization, the Council of Social Work Education.

Effect on accreditation: There are no additional accreditation requirements. The Council on Social Work Education requires the institution's transcript say the major is social work. The Higher Learning Commission has approved the change under the notification process.

Effect on resources: No additional resources are needed to implement this change.

Date of implementation: June 2021.