



# STATE OF SOCIAL WORK FIELD EDUCATION NATIONAL SURVEY REPORT 2020

## METHOD

A survey was sent to all 43 Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE-ACFES) accredited institutions asking field education coordinators (FECDs) and directors about program details, program and staffing models, resources, FECD activities, and their perspectives on the state of field education in Canada.

## PURPOSE

To gain a better understanding of the state of social work field education in Canada.

## GOAL

TFEL aims to prepare the next generation of social workers in Canada by creating training and mentoring opportunities for students, developing and mobilizing innovative and promising field education practices, and improving the integration of research and practice in field education.

## KEY FINDINGS

A majority of CASWE-ACFES accredited programs participated in the survey with **39 of 43 FECDs**, or **90.7%** completed the survey.

Almost all universities offered:  
• **97%** Urban Placements  
• **51%** Placements on Reserve

Universities with **2 employed field personnel** have programs with **250-499 students**.

**2/3** of universities offered **BSW & MSW programs**.

**44%** offered programs in an **online or blended** format, but had very few designated staff assigned to manage these programs.

**75%** of respondents worked at English speaking programs **36%** worked at French speaking programs.

**MSW programs have greater full-time equivalents (FTEs) for a fewer number of students.**

**The number of FTEs for the "onsite" program rose as the number of students increased.**

**1 FACULTY MEMBER LIAISON MODEL** was the most common model.

**2 SESSIONAL FACULTY LIAISON MODEL** was the second most common model.

Most institutions **94%** have **1.0 FTE** or less in administrative assistance/office support assigned to field education.

**37%** of institutions with BSW & MSW programs reported having **5.5 or more FTEs for the "onsite" program**.

The average # of FTEs reported to adequately staff onsite programs was **2.5**, with BSW programs reporting a greater average of FTEs needed at **2.9**, **greater than MSW programs**.

**36%** of institutions with BSW & MSW programs reported having **less than 2.4 FTEs or more FTEs for the "onsite" program** who match or place students.

