

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

SUBJECT: New non-Rackham graduate degree program in the School of Social Work

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval to offer a new non-Rackham Master of Arts in Social Impact Leadership

The University of Michigan School of Social Work proposes to launch a new 30-credit Master of Arts Degree in Social Impact Leadership. The program builds on the School of Social Work's 100-year-plus history of leadership in educating social impact practitioners in health and social service management, policy advocacy, and community change through the current Masters of Social Work (MSW) program.

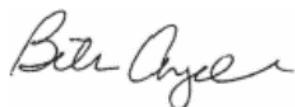
The proposed MA program aligns with the SSW's values, mission, and recently completed strategic vision, which calls for the school to provide innovative education that supports expanding and infusing social work concepts and skills into non-traditional social work employment. This degree helps the SSW engage and influence the changing landscape in various social impact efforts in the public sector, private sector, and philanthropic communities increasingly interested in issues related to employee wellness, relational management, social impact, and corporate responsibility.

The Social Impact Leadership MA is in line with the University of Michigan's 2035 vision to expand life-changing educational opportunities. Further, the proposed program contributes to workforce development goals within the university, including strengthening the State of Michigan's workforce around social impact and social services.

The thoughtfully designed MA will attract undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Michigan, in addition to early and mid-career professionals looking for conceptual frameworks, and practical and industry skills for social impact careers. The new MA will be offered alongside our current MSW programs.

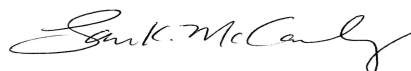
We request that the Regents approve the offering of the non-Rackham graduate degree, Master of Arts Social Impact Leadership. Pending approval, the first students will enter the program in September of 2026, following further approval from the Michigan Association of State Universities.

Recommended by:



Beth Angell  
Dean and Phillip Fellin Collegiate Professor  
School of Social Work  
University of Michigan

Recommendation endorsed by:



Laurie McCauley  
Provost and Executive Vice  
President for Academic Affairs  
University of Michigan