

Saint Francis University

- **Qualification Recognition Assessment on Master of Social Work**
- **Qualification Recognition Review on Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)**

THE FINAL REPORT BY THE ASSESSMENT TEAM

Executive Summary

The Assessment Team (AT) appointed by the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) has conducted the Qualification Recognition Assessment (QRA) for the Master of Social Work (MSW) Programme and the Qualification Recognition Review (QRR) for the Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) (BSW) Programme in Saint Francis University (SFU). A preparatory meeting of the AT was held on 5 January 2026 before the on-campus visit to SFU on 6 & 7 January 2026, respectively.

Assessment Team's Recommendations

Based on the submission documents, tabled documents and the discussions with different stakeholders, the AT concluded that both the BSW and MSW Programmes have met the criteria and standards laid down by the SWRB in the *8th edition of Principal, Criteria and Standards for Recognising Qualifications in Social Work (PCS)* in general, and the two programmes are of a sufficient standard deliver a qualification in social work to be recognised for registration at the SWRB. The validity period for the MSW Programme will be three years, from Academic Year (AY)2026/27 to AY2028/29, with the maximum student intake quota of 30 full-time students and 30 part-time students respectively. The validity period for the BSW Programme will be four years, from AY2026/27 to AY2029/30, with the maximum student intake quota of 120 part-time students. The next QRR for the MSW will be conducted in AY2028/29, and the next QRR for the BSW Programme in AY2029/30. There was one Condition imposed for the MSW Programme, with three Suggestions for Enhancement and three Commendations, made by the AT. For the BSW Programme, one Condition has been imposed by the AT, with seven Suggestions for Enhancement and two Commendations have been made by the AT.

Condition for the Master of Social Work Programme

1. To provide the SWRB with the following information in the designated date(s) within the validity period:
 - (a) The Annual Programme Report by 31 May 2027 and 2028, including but not limited to:
 - i. the progress of appointment / deployment details for the two teaching staff for the courses “Social Enterprise and Social Innovation” and “Social Service Planning, Programme Development and Evaluation”, as well as all fieldwork supervisors and Fieldwork Director;
 - ii. an updated list of all programme teaching staff and fieldwork supervisors to include their qualifications and relevant experience;
 - iii. details of secured fieldwork placement agencies and vacancies;
 - iv. clarify the medium of instruction for the fieldwork placement in the programme information materials; and

- v. documentation on the workload of the teaching staff.
- (b) A matrix and mapping for the seven professional attributes (as described in latest version of *PCS* of the SWRB) as they apply to programme courses to ensure that the professional attributes are evident in the Annual Programme Report by 31 May 2027 and 2028, and in the submission documents of the next Qualification Recognition Review.
 - (c) An Interim Report for the three-year part-time mode of MSW Programme by the end of second year implementation by 30 November 2028 to the SWRB to include more information about the part-time mode for the next Qualification Recognition Review including, but not limited to:
 - i. updated information about the part-time mode of MSW Programme when compared to the information submitted in the Qualification Recognition Assessment (QRA) and future plans if any;
 - ii. enrolment figures and list of qualifications and experience of students enrolled; and
 - iii. results of evaluation on the programme courses by students.

Condition for the Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) Programme

1. To provide the SWRB with the following information in the Annual Programme Report by 31 May 2027 and 2028 and 2029, within the validity period:
 - i. the progress of appointment / deployment details for the Fieldwork Director;
 - ii. an updated list of all programme teaching staff and fieldwork supervisors to include their qualifications and relevant experience;
 - iii. details of secured fieldwork placement agencies and vacancies; and
 - iv. documentation on the workload of the teaching staff.

THE FINAL DECISION OF THE BOARD

The Board has resolved to accept the following recommendations of the Assessment Team:

1. The MSW Programme for a period of three years from the academic year 2026/27 to 2028/29, with one condition, three suggestions for enhancement and three commendations. The maximum student intake quota is 30 full-time students and 30 part-time students respectively.
2. The BSW Programme for a period of four years, from the academic year 2026/27 to 2029/30, with one condition, seven suggestions for enhancement and two commendations. The maximum student intake quota is 120 part-time students.