The Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work at Norfolk State University was established in 1960 with the founding of the Baccalaureate Social Work (BSW) program. Its Master of Social Work (MSW) degree and Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (Ph.D.) degree programs were added in 1974, and 1995, respectively. Thus, the School, along with its Continuing Education Program, offers the full continuum of social work education.

The School's mission is to provide social work education programs which prepare students with competence to develop and deliver services which strengthen and empower individuals, families, and communities. The School and its programs emphasize the values of social justice, social responsibility, and respect for human rights, dignity, and diversity. The School is especially committed to addressing the strengths and challenges for an ethnically and culturally diverse client population in an evolving global community.

Accreditation
The School of Social Work's Baccalaureate of Social Work and Master of Social Work Programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Organization of the School
The School is administered by the Dean. The Associate Dean is responsible for administrative matters. The BSW Program Director is responsible for the BSW Program Curriculum. The MSW Program Director is responsible for the MSW Program Curriculum. The Director of the Ph.D. Program is responsible for the Ph.D. Program.

Admission Requirements
BSW applicants must meet University requirements for admission. After completing the first two years of pre-social work course requirements, students may apply to the Professional Program for the BSW degree. The formal application process and requirements for admission to the professional phase of the Social Work Program are as follows:

1. The student must have completed the first two years of basic core requirements and pre-social work requirements, and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on the 4.0 scale (an overall average of C or better).
2. The student must complete and submit all Professional Program application materials to the Director of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program.
3. The student must complete or be enrolled in ENG 299 Writing Competency Exam.
4. Continued matriculation at the professional level of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program requires that the student:
   a. Maintain an overall G.P.A. of 2.0 or better.
   b. Maintain an average of 2.5 G.P.A. in social work courses.
   c. Must have earned a grade of C or better in social work courses and designated courses as specified in the Social Work curriculum.