

NASW

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world.

The Florida Chapter of NASW coordinates LEAD and partners with Schools of Social Work in Florida to bring hundreds of social work students to the state Capitol each year during the legislative session.



www.NASWFL.org

How to Register for LEAD

LEAD occurs on different dates each year, usually on a Monday and Tuesday during the spring semester. As soon as the School of Social Work is informed of the date, information about LEAD is sent out electronically along with simple-to-complete registration forms. All BSW and MSW students are encouraged to participate. Students should talk to all of their instructors and field instructors ahead of time to plan accordingly.



"We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public record, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution". PREAMBLE TO THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

LEAD

**Legislative
Education and
Advocacy Days:**
*A Social Work Macro Practice
Learning Experience*



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Socialwork.cbcs.usf.edu

TRAVEL



While a majority of students ride together on a school-sponsored bus to the State Capitol, and stay overnight in a Tallahassee motel, others may carpool and meet, as a group, for a training, a rally, and visits to legislators.

On day one, the bus typically stops for lunch during the 4-5 hour journey, and arrives for a training session led by NASW leaders. Day two is spent in the State Capitol complex, followed by the bus ride back to campus.



TRAINING

Training provided by NASW experts provides students with everything needed to feel comfortable visiting legislators. During training, NASW Florida chapter representatives and other state policy leaders clearly explain how to conduct meetings with legislators, sharing important tips for these typically very short meetings.

Students are informed of current bills' status, receive background information on targeted legislative and budget issues, and learn why the bills are supported or not supported by NASW. Students are also given talking points and handouts on each bill to leave with their legislators as well as specific directions for getting around the State Capitol complex.



Training at Tallahassee
Automobile Museum

QUOTES

“LEAD opened my eyes and ignited my ambition.”



“LEAD is as much about advocating for other as your own growing experience.”

“LEAD was a great learning experience to understand how to communicate with your legislator in a personal, efficient manner. I learned to consider a bill’s potential impact for both my clients and American society at large.”

“Legislators are not mythical. They are real people with families, flaws, and fantastic ideas. You can talk to them as human beings and make a real change.”

“It just emphasizes the reason we are doing what we are doing, to make a change and give a voice to the voiceless.”

“Your voice IS heard.”

