

Southwest Minnesota State University Social Work Program Child Welfare Title IV-E Scholars Stipend Application Form

This project is a part of the Minnesota BSW Child Welfare Consortium

Deadline date: November 1, 2023 at 11:59pm (Minnesota time)

Introduction

We are recruiting **full time** B.S.W. Social Work students to become child welfare scholars. These scholars will take specific courses during their time at Southwest Minnesota State University and will complete their practicum at a county or tribal level child welfare program. A stipend of \$2,250.00 per semester will be offered to the scholars. Child welfare scholars will take the Social Work Child Welfare class and also be required to attend occasional training and meeting sessions. Accepted scholars will retain their status and stipend each semester until graduation, pending funding and acceptable academic and professional progress. After graduation, our child welfare graduates are required to apply the skills and knowledge acquired from their experience through employment in a child welfare setting.

Minnesota Child Welfare Consortium

The Minnesota BSW Child Welfare Consortium at the University of Minnesota includes the social work departments at University of Minnesota Duluth, Bemidji State University, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Metropolitan State University; Minnesota State University, Moorhead; St. Cloud State University; and Winona State University. The consortium is dedicated to improving the quality of public child welfare services for families and children.

Child Welfare Field

Public child welfare services are those provided by state, tribal or county governmental agencies. These social services promote the welfare of all children through child protection, foster care, adoption, family services, and tribal social services.

Child Welfare Stipend Requirements

If awarded a Child Welfare Stipend, students are required to:

- have a senior field practicum in a county, state or tribal child welfare unit;
- complete the social work Child Welfare course;
- attend child welfare IV-E student meetings and training seminars as needed;
- be a full time (12 credits or more) social work student;
- maintain good academic standing (as defined by social work program policy); and
- upon exit from the social work department seek and accept employment in public child welfare (if such a position is available and offered within three months of graduation) and maintain such employment for four and a half months for each semester of stipend received.

Printed final applications can be submitted to Amber Kinner-Alahakoon with a resume attached.

An interview will be a part of the application process.

Contact:

Amber Kinner-Alahakoon, Charter Hall 101B, 507-537-7444, amber.kinner-alahakoon@smsu.edu

**Child Welfare Title IV-E Scholars Stipend Application
Southwest Minnesota State University
Social Work Program**

This application form must be TYPED. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.

You must be a full-time social work student at Southwest Minnesota State University and a United States citizen or permanent resident in order to receive an award.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Permanent Address _____

City, state, zip _____ State of residence _____

School Address _____

City, state, zip _____

Preferred phone (_____) _____ Preferred address: ____ home ____ school

E-mail address _____

U.S. Citizen/permanent resident ____ Yes ____ No

STUDENT INFORMATION

SMSU Tech ID _____

Expected Graduation Date _____

Major(s) _____

Minor(s) _____

What courses do you plan to take next semester (list number of credits)? _____

Fluency in languages other than English? ____ Yes ____ No If yes, please specify _____

Statement of Understanding

I, _____ (insert name), certify that I am a US citizen or permanent resident and I am an admitted student in good standing with the Social Work Program at Southwest Minnesota State University. I have read and understand the documents related to the IV-E Child Welfare Stipend. If I am awarded a Child Welfare Student Stipend:

- I understand that the Financial Aid office will be informed of the award and that it may affect my financial aid;
- I must maintain my good standing in the social work program and be registered for at least 12 credit hours per semester that I receive the stipend,
- I will attend the required workshops and/or seminars and completed the required social work child welfare course(s) and placements.
- Further, I understand that I will continue with my stipend status for more than one semester if I keep satisfactory status and that if I do not or fail to graduate, I will be required to pay back the stipend.

ESSAYS

Please respond to each question with a minimum two-page essay (total) that is typed, double-spaced, and uses standard (12 pt.) font size and margins (1 inch).

Please attach your three essays to your application.

1. Please discuss your interest in, and commitment to, working in public child welfare services.
2. Please describe your commitment to culturally sensitive and culturally competent social work, particularly with persons most often served by public child welfare services. Illustrate this commitment with examples of your own experiences with people who are not of your own racial, ethnic, or cultural identification.
3. Describe your professional and career goals and how you see studies in child welfare assisting you in achieving these goals.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (Optional)

Sex: Male Female Other

Do you identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community? Yes No

Predominant Ethnic Background:

African-American Asian or Pacific Islander Chicana/o or Latina/o

Native American/American Indian White/Caucasian-American

Hispanic Other: _____ (please specify)

Age: 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55+