Selection Process
The selection of stipend recipients is a 3-step process. 1) Panel members carefully review applications and select applicants to interview. Selection is based on the applicant’s statement as to "why they are interested in pursuing a career in public child welfare," Years of service and other child welfare experience weigh significantly in selecting. Priority is given to applicants who reflect the diverse client populations served by public child welfare agencies. Fluency in high-demand languages is given priority. 2) Selected applicants will be notified of their interview date and time. 3) If chosen to receive the stipend, applicants must submit to various background checks.

Conditional Award
All stipends are awarded on the condition that applicants pass required background checks, submit requested documentation and don’t have a driving record that would preclude placement or employment in a county child welfare services agency. Applicants who fail to pass the background checks, lack any of the required documentation or have a driving record that would preclude them from placement and/or employment, will be considered ineligible and terminated from the program.

Post-Graduate Employment
Upon graduation, students must work in a county child welfare services agency for a period of two (2) years. Hayward students must seek, apply for and accept a position appropriate to a new MSW in child welfare services anywhere within the state of California. Oakland students must return to their agency immediately upon graduation and render two (2) years continuous and satisfactory full-time employment in a position appropriate to a new MSW. If student is unable to return to their agency due to budget cuts, student must seek, apply for and accept a position appropriate to a new MSW in child welfare anywhere within the state of California. Failure to seek and find appropriate county MSW level positions may result in the re-payment of Title IV-E funds.

Native Americans
Program graduates who are Native Americans with tribal rights as specified under the laws of the state of California may complete their work commitments in the following settings as alternatives to California CWS agencies: 1) a reservation or Rancheria providing CWS in California, 2) an urban Indian agency in California serving IV-E funds.

Applications
Applications must be complete and post-marked no later than March 15, 2013. You must attach your DMV printout for the last 10 years to your application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Hayward applications: http://www20.csueastbay.edu/class/departments/socialwork/

Oakland applications: www.ce.csueastbay.edu/degree/MSW/index.shtml.

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**Background**
In 1990, the California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) was created to improve the education and training of social workers for publicly supported social services.

With funding from federal Title IV-E training funds, CalSWEC in 1992 entered into a contract with the California Department of Social Services to develop the Title IV-E Master of Social Work program and began collaborating with higher education schools of social work. The goal is to improve the education and training of social workers for publicly supported social services. The consortium now includes 21 California universities providing financial aid for students and graduates for careers in public child welfare.

**Stipends**
The full-time Hayward Title IV-E stipend provides students $18,500 per year for two years. Current employees of county departments of social services agencies are given admission preference but they must be on educational leave i.e., not receiving pay from the agency during the academic year. Employees may work during break periods and summers and may perform fieldwork in their agency subject to school policies. Students must complete the MSW program with the appropriate CYF concentration for careers in public child welfare, maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Upon graduation, students must fulfill a work commitment in a public CWS agency anywhere within the state of California and remain employed for two years.

Part-time Oakland Title IV-E Educational Reimbursement stipends are available to MSW students currently employed at a public county or state social services agency. Students will be reimbursed the cost of tuition and travel to class and/or field sites. Applicants must have a letter of support from their agency director. Students must complete the MSW program with the appropriate CYF concentration for careers in public child welfare and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Upon graduation, students must return to their agency and secure a position that is at an appropriate MSW level and fulfill a work commitment for two years. If there are no appropriate positions available at their agency due to budget cuts, students must seek and find a MSW child welfare position anywhere in the state of California at a state or county public CWS agency and remain employed for two years.

**Eligibility**
In order to be eligible for consideration of a stipend in the CalSWEC MSW Title IV-E programs, students must have already been accepted into the MSW programs at Cal State East Bay and returned written confirmation that they are attending.

**Requirements**
Students must provide proof of U.S. citizenship or permanent residency, have a valid California driver's license and use of a registered vehicle with automobile insurance while in the program including the post-graduation employment obligation and complete required Child Welfare coursework and seminars.

Applicants must be able to meet the requirements of county child welfare worker positions that generally include, but are not limited to, the following physical characteristics: frequent standing, walking, bending, stooping and kneeling; occasional lifting and carrying small children ranging in ages from one (1) to seven (7) years who weigh up to 50 pounds. Must have mobility and strength to handle babies and intervene to resolve verbal and physical confrontations involving residents.

**Pre-Screening**
We pre-screen our applicants to the best of our ability for future county employment. All applicants are required to consent to a criminal background check including a Child Abuse index prior to agency placements. If your criminal record or history of a Child Abuse allegation prevents you from securing a field placement and/or you do not obtain student liability insurance, you will not be able to remain in the Title IV-E program. Persons with Founded Child Abuse allegations will not be able to participate in the Title IV-E program due to restrictions on placement/employment in a Child Welfare Agency.

Selected applicants must undergo a live scan background check and submit a DMV printout of their driving record for the past ten (10) years. Applicants with a poor driving record may be disqualified. Misdemeanor and felony convictions for crimes against children, assault, drugs and driving while under the influence may also disqualify an applicant.