



Overview of Title IV-E Stipend Program

The CSUEB Title IV-E MSW Child Welfare Training Program prepares MSW students for careers in public child welfare services. Qualified MSW students who are interested in the program go through a special selection process, and if selected, will receive stipends of \$18,500 each year for the two years of the full-time program. Please note that if you receive this award, it may impact your financial aid package. Please contact CSUEB for any financial aid questions [CSUEB Financial Aid](#).

What is Public Child Welfare?

Child welfare systems across the country serve some of the most vulnerable children, youth, and families. These systems are designed to support families and to protect children from harm through an array of prevention and intervention services; in particular, they are designed to support children who have been or are at risk of abuse or neglect. Child welfare is a continuum of services designed to ensure that children are safe and that families have the necessary support to care for their children successfully. Child welfare agencies typically:

- Support or coordinate services to prevent child abuse and neglect;
- Provide services to families that need help protecting and caring for their children;
- Receive and investigate reports of possible child abuse and neglect; assess child and family needs, strengths, and resources;
- Arrange for children to live with kin (i.e., relatives) or with foster families when safety cannot be ensured at home;
- Support the well-being of children living with relatives or foster families, including ensuring that their educational needs are addressed;
- Work with the children, youth, and families to achieve family reunification, adoption, or other permanent family connections for children and youth leaving foster care.

Is the Title IV-E Program A Good Fit For Me?

- **Child Welfare Worker Realistic Job Preview:** Watch this video for a realistic look into what child welfare work entails - get a feel for what skills and qualifications are needed on the job, as well as what a typical day would look like. [Realistic Job Preview](#)
- **Hear from Former Title IV-E Students:** Watch this video to find out what former Title IV-E students all over California have to say about the program: [IV-E Students Speak](#)
- **Title IV-E Graduate Testimonial, En Español:** Watch this video for IV-E graduates' testimonial in Spanish [IV-E Students Testimonial Spanish](#)
- **CSUEB IV-E Alumni Testimonial:** Read testimonial from our CSUEB Title IV-E alumni (Najeeb Kamil) testimonial: [CSUEB IV-E Alumni Testimonial](#)

IV-E Program Requirements

As a Student: IV-E recipients must agree to enroll in the Children, Youth and Family Concentration and complete a specialized academic curriculum. This includes two years of monthly IV-E workshops, and two years of specialized fieldwork - one year of fieldwork must be in a county child welfare agency or a Tribal social services agency serving Title IV-E children and families. Another year may be completed in a related county, Tribal or non-profit program serving child welfare (Title IV-E) clients, i.e., children in or at risk of out-of-home placement. All IV-E students are also required to maintain good academic standing in the MSW Program (maintaining a 3.0 GPA), including but not limited to field placements and /or selection for field placements.

As a Graduate: Upon graduation, a IV-E Graduate must secure employment with qualifying agencies (county public child welfare agencies/departments; California Department of Social Services (CDSS) programs providing child welfare services; Tribal agency or urban Indian agency providing child welfare services) within one year of graduation. An MSW IV-E graduate must commit to continuous full-time employment with a qualifying agency for a total of 24 months (2 years).

- **A student who is employed in a county or the state Department of Social Services must** agree to return to that agency of employment immediately after program completion or no later than six months after graduation and per all other terms of the agency statement of support in a position at a level appropriate for the degree received. Appointment to and continuation in employment shall be subject to all applicable county civil service rules and departmental policies.
- **A student who is not a current employee** must secure qualifying employment within one year of graduation. Student/Graduate agrees to make reasonable efforts to apply for and accept employment in a Qualifying Agency in a position at a level appropriate for the degree received.

Program/Work Interruption & Monetary Repayment Requirements

Students/graduates are responsible for repayment of stipends, interest, and any costs of collection in the following events and if a waiver for monetary repayment is not approved through the CalSWEC petition process. (Note: Title IV-E Funds, because it involves federal funds, cannot be discharged in the event one files for bankruptcy):

1. Student's enrollment in the MSW program at the University is terminated prior to graduation for any reason.
2. Student's participation in the IV-E Program is terminated for any reason prior to completion for any reason.
3. Student fails to complete the 24 months employment obligation for any reason.

Student Enrollment Requirements

1. Applicant must maintain the status of a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, or hold a work permit and driver's license under federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) rules throughout Program participation including the employment obligation. Student/Graduate holding DACA status must disclose this status to prospective employers and determine whether the agency has a prohibition against hiring a person with DACA status. In the event a Student/Graduate with DACA status is unable to secure qualified employment and complete the employment obligation, Student/Graduate may be liable to repay all or a portion of support received.
2. Applicant must have a valid California driver's license and use of a registered vehicle with automobile insurance while in the MSW program, and all through the post-graduation employment obligation period.
3. Current employees of county Departments of Social Services must (a) be on educational leave (i.e., not receiving pay from the agency during the academic year); and (b) submit a letter of support from agency director.
4. Applicant who enters the IV-E MSW program from the IV-E BASW program must complete BASW employment obligation prior to IV-E MSW program entry unless Student has received formal deferral of the BASW employment obligation from CalSWEC.
5. Applicants must be able to meet the employment requirements in a public (state, county, tribal) child welfare agency, including criminal background checks and other pre-screening procedures.

Pre-Screening

The Title IV-E Stipend Program will require applicants to secure an internship as well as employment with county child welfare agencies. As such, all applicants must be able to meet the internship/hiring requirements of county child welfare agencies. Consequently, applicants must agree to being pre-screened for future county employment. Selected applicants are required to participate in the criminal clearance process as required by the Department of Justice and other applicable regulations and submit a DMV printout of their driving record for the past ten (10) years. Criminal record/history of child abuse allegation/driving record that will disqualify an individual from service in a county child welfare service agency may disqualify an applicant from the IV-E program.

Selection Process

The selection of stipend recipients is a 3-step process:

I. Review of Written Applications: Awards committee members carefully review applications and select applicants to interview. Selection is based on the applicant's statement of interest. Years of case management experience in the field of child welfare weigh significantly in the selection. Priority is given to current county and state Department of Social Services employees and applicants who reflect the diverse client populations currently served by child welfare agencies in California.

II. Candidate Oral Interview and Written Exam: Second, selected applicants will be notified of their oral interview and written exam date and time. An awards committee, consisting of both CSUEB MSW Program faculty/administration and agency representatives from county child welfare services, makes award decisions.

III. Background and Driving Record Screening Clearance: Finally, if chosen to receive the stipend, applicants must submit to background and driving record screening, and only upon the clearance of this screening process will the final stipend award be made. All stipends are awarded on the condition that applicants pass required background checks, submit requested documentation and do not have a driving record that will preclude placement or employment in county child welfare services agencies. Applicants who fail to pass the background checks, lack any of the required documentation or have a driving record that will preclude them from placement and/or employment will be considered ineligible and be disqualified from the program.

Application

All students who meet normal CSUEB MSW admissions standards and IV-E requirements (see section above on "Student Enrollment Requirements") and who have a genuine interest in child welfare (see section above on "What is Public Child Welfare? Is the Title IV-E Program a Good Fit For Me?") are welcome to apply.

Whereas a confirmed admission to the CSUEB MSW Program is an eligibility requirement for the Title IV-E Program, ***not all students accepted into the MSW Program and who apply to the Title IV-E Program will be selected to participate in the IV-E Program.***

The Title IV-E Application deadline is January 15, 2023 and applications are to be submitted electronically. The link will be posted on October 1, 2022. ***Please note that all incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered.***

If you have any questions about the Title IV-E Child Welfare Stipend Program, please email Professor Siang Sin Goh, MSW, M.Ed., Title IV-E Program Coordinator at siangsin.goh@csueastbay.edu.