

### Overview of the Adult Protective Services MSW Training Program

The Adult Protective Services MSW Training Program (APS MSW Training Program) is funded by the [California Department of Social Services \(CDSS\)](#) and managed in partnership with San Jose State University (SJSU) as part of statewide workforce development initiative identified as a priority in California's Master Plan for Aging. Its central goals are:

- To better prepare new MSWs to provide effective, evidence-based professional social work services in county and Tribal Adult Protective Services units
- To increase the numbers and enhance the retention of MSWs working in county and Tribal Adult Protective Services units in all regions of California

### Trainee Eligibility Criteria

The CSUEB APS MSW Training Program is open to MSW students who are:

- Enrolled as full time, part time, or advanced standing students
- Entering the planned training year of MSW study in good academic standing
- Matched/matching with practicum placements for the training year in public Adult Services programs (for foundation year) or in APS units (for advanced year)
- Not receiving funding support from any other CDSS administered or federally funded training or scholarship program

### Trainee Selection Criteria

The CSUEB APS MSW Training Program seeks MSW students who demonstrate:

- Interest in and commitment to learning about the issues, challenges and needs specific to social work practice with aging and vulnerable adults
- Linguistic and cultural competencies that align with the needs of underserved consumers in California
- **Demonstrated, strong and sustained commitment** to social work careers working with aging and vulnerable adults in California's public Adult Protective Services units

### Trainee Award Guidelines

- MSW students are accepted into the APS MSW Training Program for one academic year at a time
- MSW students may apply to the program for one year of foundation training and one year of advanced training, in different academic years
- Acceptance into the training program for one year of foundation training does NOT guarantee acceptance for a second year of advanced training
- MSW students may participate in the training program for a maximum of two academic years

### Trainee Application Procedures

- SJSU creates a Qualtrics-based training program application and shares the application link with CSUEB's MSW department as a participating program
- CSUEB's MSW department shares the Qualtrics link for the application with potential applicants

- CSUEB's MSW department sets its own timeline for release of the application, application deadline, interviews, and awardee notifications and CSUEB applicants should follow these timelines
- SJSU provides application data to each MSW program as requested

### Trainee Selection Process

- SJSU is NOT involved in the review of applications or the selection of trainees in any way
- CSUEB's MSW program reviews all submitted applications, identifies and conducts panel interviews with finalists, and selects awardees
- CSUEB's MSW program holds panel interviews for finalists that include both faculty and community members
- CSUEB's MSW program notifies selected trainees after verifying that they are matched with eligible practicum placements for the training year
- SJSU verifies practicum placement eligibility again in the fall, before trainees sign student service agreements and before stipend funding is awarded

### Stipend Awards

Stipends for **students taking 6 or more units per semester** are \$20,000 per academic year for AY 2024-25. Trainees will receive stipends in two disbursements: \$10,000 in **mid to late** fall semester; \$10,000 in **mid** spring semester.

### Coursework Requirements

**Foundation year trainees** must complete all required general and aging and adult services-focused courses as specified by the MSW program. These should be the foundational practice, policy and research courses in which students interested in aging and adult services typically enroll. The appropriate courses are whatever courses are recommended as preparation for an advanced year aging and adult services option/concentration OR the closest equivalent at CSUEB's MSW program (vs. courses that serve as preparation for options or concentrations in child welfare, behavioral health, etc.). **Advanced year trainees** must complete all aging and adult services-focused courses as required and/or specified by the MSW program. These should be the advanced practice, policy and research courses in which students focused on aging and adult services typically enroll. The appropriate courses are whatever courses are required for an advanced year aging and adult services option or concentration OR the closest equivalent at CSUEB's MSW program if no such option/concentration exists (vs. courses required for options in child welfare, behavioral health, macro practice, etc.).

### Practicum Training Requirements

**Foundation year practicum training** must involve delivering public services for aging and/or vulnerable adults. Eligible foundation year practicum training sites include Adult Services units and programs other than APS, such as Intake, IHSS, PACE, Public Guardian, and Seniors First, as well as similar AAA and Tribal programs and (in a pinch) other publicly funded programs that focus on serving aging and vulnerable adults and their families. **Advanced year practicum training** must involve providing social work services in a county or Tribal APS unit. Eligible advanced year practicum training sites include ONLY Tribal and county administered Adult Protective Services units.

### Practicum Seminar Expectations

**Foundation year APS trainees** must enroll in the practicum seminar best for students training in aging and adult services settings, per CSUEB's MSW program. **Advanced year APS trainees** must enroll in the practicum seminar best for students training in public APS settings, per the MSW program. CSUEB's MSW

program will organize, schedule and engage all APS trainees in monthly enhancements to the field seminar focused specifically on social work practice with aging and vulnerable adults and in public APS settings.

### **Additional Training Requirements**

APS trainees must:

- Complete all enhancements and additions to the field seminar focused on key skills for social work practice with aging and vulnerable adults and in APS units, as designated and scheduled by CSUEB during the training year.
- Complete all virtual trainings focused on key skills for social work practice with aging and vulnerable adults and in APS units, as designated and scheduled by SJSU during the training year.

### **Additional Trainee Commitments and Post-Graduation Service Obligation**

APS Trainees must commit to:

- Participating in all program meetings and trainings scheduled by the MSW program and by SJSU during the training year.
- Completing all pre-/post-training surveys as requested and on time during the training year; providing updated contact information at MSW graduation; completing annual follow-up surveys as requested and on time for at least five years after graduation; completing the post-graduation service obligation.

**For each year of training participation, APS training program graduates are required to complete the equivalent of 12 months of full-time service employment which MUST be in MSW positions in Tribal or county administered Adult Protective Services units in California.** APS Training Program graduates are encouraged to pursue LCSW licensure through BBS registration and the accrual and documentation of required supervision hours.

**Training program graduates who fail to complete the required service obligation within 36 months of MSW graduation must repay the stipend funding provided through the APS MSW Training Program.** Graduates who fulfill NONE of the service obligation are required to repay all stipend funding in full. Graduates who fulfill SOME but not ALL of the service obligation are required to repay a prorated amount based on the total hours of eligible service completed. Stipend funding repayment plans typically involve monthly payments spread out over 12 to 24 months and may include interest and processing fees as well as stipend funding.

If you have any questions about the APS MSW Training Program, please email [tracey.zahradka@csueastbay.edu](mailto:tracey.zahradka@csueastbay.edu).