

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
NM Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)
Child Welfare Scholar Application

Deadline: February 26, 2016

Program Goal: The primary goal of the scholar program is to increase the number of BSW and MSW social workers available to provide services to children at risk of child abuse and/or neglect and their families.

Stipend Amounts for the 2016-2017 Academic Year:

BSW Awards:

\$9,000 award/18 month employment obligation

MSW Awards:

\$6,000 award (part-time MSW)/12 months employment obligation

\$10,000 award/18 month employment obligation

Requirements for Child Welfare Scholars:

A Child Welfare Scholar must:

- Be accepted and enrolled in the BSW or MSW program. This includes part-time students and students who are currently employees of CYFD.
- Be willing to accept employment with CYFD in counties where there is the greatest need for qualified social workers for a specified period of time after graduation based on the terms of your scholar award.
- Complete a one year field placement at CYFD.
- Complete required Child Welfare course requirements successfully with a “B” or better offered through the NMSU School of Social Work.
- Pass a full background check conducted by CYFD.
- Apply for provisional licensure prior to graduation as well as take and pass the licensing exam within 6 months of graduation.

**NOTE: RECEIVING THE CHILD WELFARE SCHOLARSHIP
MAY AFFECT YOUR FINANCIAL AID.
PLEASE SEE YOUR FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR.**

For additional information, please contact Monica Montoya at 575-646-6342.

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How to Apply:

- Complete the Child Welfare Scholar application as completely and accurately as possible. For exceptions or unusual situations, attach an explanatory note.
- Attach the following to your application:
 - Answers to the questions on page 6
 - A current resume
 - Names and phone numbers of three (3) professional references
 - Names of your current social work instructors (if enrolled in social work classes)
 - An unofficial academic transcript
- Submit your application to the Child Welfare Scholar Coordinator through fax, mail, or email (see contact information below).

***Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.*

Before being accepted as a scholar, applicants will need to:

- Participate in a panel interview comprised of NMSU and CYFD staff
- Pass a criminal background check
- In addition, the references of all applicants will be checked and the applicant's current social work professors will be consulted.

Monica Montoya, Child Welfare Scholar Coordinator
NMSU School of Social Work
MSC 3SW, P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
(575) 646-6342, FAX (575) 646-4116, monicamo@nmsu.edu

Applications must be received by: February 26, 2016.

Name: _____ **Date of application:** _____

Banner ID #: _____ **Social Security #:** _____

Local Address: _____

City

State

Zip

Permanent Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone: _____
Home _____ **Cell** _____ **Work** _____

Email: _____

Expected date of graduation: _____

Indicate your standing for which you will be applying to be a Child Welfare Scholar:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BSW junior year | <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time MSW 1 st yr. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BSW senior year | <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time MSW 2 nd yr. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time MSW Advanced Standing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time MSW Advanced Standing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time MSW |

Indicate academic standing: _____

Campus:

- Main
 Albuquerque

Scholar Award Status Applying for:

- 1st scholar award
 2nd scholar award

Please complete the following:

1. Are you a U.S. citizen?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Are you a Legal Permanent Resident?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Do you have a valid driver's license? If not, please describe your circumstances. _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Do you have a method of transportation? If not, please describe your circumstances. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<p>5. Have you ever been charged or convicted of a DWI or DUI? If so, please explain the circumstances, when the charge/conviction occurred and what the outcome was.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>6. Have you ever received a deferred prosecution or deferred judgment, or been convicted or pled guilty to or pled nolo contendere to a criminal charge in any state, territory or district of the United States, or foreign country? If so, please explain the circumstances and outcome. <i>**Please note that additional dispositional documentation may be requested prior to interview.</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>7. Have you ever been investigated for child abuse, neglect or molestation? If so, please explain what state/county you were investigated in, what the allegations were and what was the outcome of the investigation?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>8. Have you ever plea-bargained a charge of child abuse, neglect, or molestation?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>9. Have you ever been substantiated as a perpetrator as the result of an abuse/neglect investigation?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>10. If you answered “yes” to Questions 8 or 9 please explain the circumstances:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>11. Are you on Academic Probation? If so, please explain your circumstances.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>
<p>12. Are you employed at the NM Children, Youth and Families Department?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>

13. <u>If you are a Protective Services Worker</u> , do you agree to accept an appropriate child welfare related field placement as determined by NMSU?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
14. <u>If you are not a PS Social Worker</u> , do you agree to accept a field placement in the NM Children, Youth & Families Department?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
15. Do you agree to complete a full background check before being accepted as a scholar?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
16. After graduation, you will be expected to accept or continue employment with the Children, Youth & Families Department (CYFD) for 18 months for each academic year selected to be a Child Welfare Scholar (or 9 months per academic year for part-time MSWs). If such employment is refused, or if your academic qualifications or misconduct make you unsuitable for CYFD employment, or in the event you do not complete the required course of study for any reason including involuntary separation or dismissal from the NMSU School of Social Work, you are required to pay back the dollar amount received during enrollment in the NMSU Social Work program. Failure to pass the licensing exam may also result in having to pay back any funds received. Will you sign an agreement to this effect?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
17. Do you agree to accept employment in any Protective Services Field Office as determined by CYFD upon graduation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
18. Do you agree to apply for provisional license prior to graduation as well as take and pass the licensing exam within 6 months of employment with CYFD and submit documentation to NMSU?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
19. Do you agree to attend preparatory study groups and licensing workshops that are required for the licensing exam as scheduled by NMSU?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

BSW ONLY:

1. Are you a declared social work major?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. What is the total number of credits you have completed?	_____
3. Are you planning to pursue an MSW immediately following graduation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. You are required to enroll in child welfare policy and practice courses designed for Child Welfare Scholars each semester of your graduating year. These must be taken for credit. Will you sign an agreement to this effect?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

MSW ONLY:

1. You are required to enroll your graduating year in child welfare policy and practice courses designed for Child Welfare Scholars. These must be taken for credit. Will you sign an agreement to this effect?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. What is the total number of credits you have completed?	_____

Signature

Date

FIRST TIME CHILD WELFARE SCHOLAR APPLICANTS ONLY

Please answer the following questions and attach to your application. Be prepared to discuss further in the interview.

1. What volunteer or paid experience do you have that can be utilized in a Child Protective Services setting? If applicable, give agency names and length of time (dates of employment) spent at each.
2. What activities are you engaged in beyond your academic program that relate to the field of child welfare and permanency planning?
3. What is your perception regarding the role of the State (CYFD) and the social worker in cases of child abuse and neglect?
4. Why do you wish to pursue a career in the field of child welfare (foster care, adoption, family reunification)? What contribution do you feel you can make to the field of child welfare?
5. In accepting a stipend you are agreeing to commit yourself to employment with CYFD in any county in New Mexico where CYFD-Protective Services deems your services are needed. Are you willing to relocate to any county in New Mexico? Do you have any restrictions or special needs regarding the geographic location of a job? Do you also understand that if you do not fulfill your commitment that you will have to repay the stipend?
6. Is there anything that you feel we should be aware of or that you feel needs further explanation?
7. Please identify your top three (3) county preferences for potential employment with CYFD upon graduation.

CHILD WELFARE SCHOLAR RENEWAL APPLICANTS ONLY

Please answer the following questions and attach to your application. Be prepared to discuss further in the interview.

1. List volunteer, paid, or field practicum experience relevant to child welfare issues that you had during the last year.
2. Will you be doing your field placement during your next year of study? If so, where do you plan to be placed? What do you hope to learn?
3. Describe your personal values and how they will impact you as a Child Protective Services social worker.

4. What is the relevance of the social worker's own values in working with children and families?
5. How does your academic work, previous or current employment, placement, or other experience in the last year apply to Child Welfare?
6. Describe your career aspirations. Is a career in public child welfare consistent with your goals?
7. As a child welfare worker what are your major strengths and areas of needed improvement?
8. What contributions do you feel you can make to the field of child welfare?
9. Utilizing your academic work, previous or current employment, placement or other experience, describe your growth in Child Welfare over the last year.
10. What challenges have you encountered as a child welfare worker and how have you dealt with these challenges?
11. Have your feelings about working for CYFD changed since we last interviewed you? If so, how?
12. Why would you like to be considered for a Child Welfare Scholar renewal?
13. If you are working now and plan to work while you attend school, how do you plan to balance work and school along with other responsibilities?
14. What have you found to be supportive from your co-workers and supervisors?
15. How do you manage stress? What stress management techniques do you use?
16. Since your first scholar interview, have you been investigated for child abuse, neglect or molestation? If so, please explain what state/county you were investigated in, what the allegations were and what was the outcome of the investigation?
17. Since your first scholar interview, have you ever received a deferred prosecution or deferred judgment, or been convicted or pled guilty to or pled nolo contendere to a criminal charge in any state, territory or district of the United States, or foreign country? If so, please explain the circumstances and outcome.

Note:

The information requested below is voluntary but is needed to assure compliance with analysis and reporting requirements of Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Laws. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Marital Status

- Single
- Married
- Separated
- Divorced
- Other

Female

Male

Ethnic Identification

- Native American
- African American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Caucasian-Other

Second Language: Are you bilingual? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what other language can you use? _____
(This would include American Sign Language)

Signature

Date