

## New Application Information, 2009-2010

### **IV-E Scholarship Application Check List**

In order to be considered complete, IV-E Scholarship applications must include the following (**word-processed or typed**) documents. Before submitting your application, complete this check list, including which essays you are submitting:

2009-10 IV-E Child Welfare Scholarship Application form  
annotated resume  
three essay assignments (one- to two-page(s) each)  
essay #4 if interested in the Children's Services Prevention Program  
essay #5 if interested in the Children's Bureau Child Welfare Traineeship

**Completed applications are due in the CASCW office (205 Peters Hall, 1404 Gortner Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108) by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009.**

**Applications must be printed, then hand-delivered, mailed or faxed - not emailed.**

**The address for the School and CASCW is above. The FAX number is 612-624-3744. Questions can be directed to Nancy Johnston at [njohnsto@umn.edu](mailto:njohnsto@umn.edu) or 612-624-3779. The toll-free number for the School is 1-800-779-8636.**

The School of Social Work (SSW) and the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW) expect to be able to support students through its own funds and federal Title IV-E funds in the 2009-10 academic year. The major goals are to diversify the staffing patterns of public child welfare services and to reinforce the development of an advanced professional staff to serve families and children at risk.

The funding available for the 2009-2010 student stipends is made possible by a federal grant from Title IV-E of the Social Security Act and which comes to us through the Minnesota Department of Human Services, and other sources. Students who apply for child welfare scholarships will be ranked according to their commitment to child welfare practice and to culturally sensitive practice as evidenced by their work or volunteer experience. **Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status.**

Awardees will be notified of their status as an awardee in May, but we cannot guarantee stipends until final notification of our funding, which may be as late as August. Because of competition for these stipends, applicants are encouraged to seek additional types of financial aid. Receipt of a Title IV-E Scholarship may make you ineligible for other types of financial aid available through the School of Social Work. Other sources of financial

aid from the School of Social work can be found at [http://cehd.umn.edu/SSW/prospective\\_students/financial\\_aid/](http://cehd.umn.edu/SSW/prospective_students/financial_aid/). Other sources of financial aid from the University can be found at: <http://onestop.umn.edu/onestop/financialaid.html>

**The criteria to be used by the 2009-2010 Selection Committee for the Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholarships and the other stipends listed below include:**

- *status as a United States citizen or permanent resident;*
- *evidence of commitment and ability to be educated and employed in the public child welfare field;*
- *evidence of competency in, and commitment to, culturally sensitive practice with ethnic minorities, diverse communities, underserved populations, and people not of applicant's own racial, ethnic, or cultural identification.*

A Title IV-E scholarship is an award of \$5000 per semester (\$10,000 per academic year) for full time study (8 credits per semester). Below are two programs that would provide additional funds, as noted. You may apply for either or both of these programs by completing essays #4 and /or #5, as directed below.

**TWO PROGRAMS THAT WILL SUPPLEMENT IV-E SCHOLARSHIPS**

**I. MN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP IN PREVENTION FELLOWSHIPS**

CASCW expects to participate again in 2009-10 with the MN Department of Human Services (DHS) in the Children's Services Leadership in Prevention Program. Ten IV-E students will be selected and have the opportunity to explore prevention of child abuse and neglect with CASCW and DHS staff through seminars and special projects. The program will consist of two seminars in the academic year at which students learn about prevention and possible projects and, at the end of the year, present their findings. Possible projects (a student would chose one) include but are not limited to: site visits to agencies receiving grants from DHS for prevention programs and services; becoming knowledgeable about website resources on evidence-based practices related to prevention; reporting on a child abuse prevention conference or workshop; investigating a topic that relates to child abuse prevention and neglect in specific communities, with immigrant children or children with disabilities, etc.

Students who are selected to participate in this Program will receive \$500 in addition to their IV-E stipend. If you are interested in being part of the Prevention program in 2009-2010, answer essay #4 below, and the IV-E Selection Committee will consider you for the program. If you have any questions, email or phone Nancy Johnston at 612-624-3779 or [njohnsto@umn.edu](mailto:njohnsto@umn.edu). Your application for the Prevention Fellowship will be considered at the same time as your IV-E application.

## II. CHILDREN'S BUREAU TRAINEESHIPS TO BUILD CAPACITY IN THE CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

CASCW has applied for additional funding from the U.S. Children's Bureau to support Title IV-E students. Notice of award of these funds will be received in May 2009. These traineeships would promote diversity in the child welfare workforce through support of students with diverse ethnic, racial, economic, and educational backgrounds and experiences, and students from groups that have traditionally been underrepresented in graduate programs. Students awarded these traineeships in addition to the IV-E scholarships would receive an additional \$5000 per year to participate in Leadership Institutes (5 days in the academic year) with community and national leaders from diverse and underserved communities. Mentors from these communities would work with students to transfer learning in policy, practice and strategies for change back to the communities. If you are interested in being part of this program, answer essay # 5 below. Your application for these traineeships will be considered at the same time as your IV-E application

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Please be aware that acceptance of a Title IV-E and other Child Welfare Scholarships may make you ineligible for other types of financial aid administered by the School of Social Work (including the SSW Emergency Loan). Information on other **non**-School of Social Work sources of financial aid is available through the University's OneStop website at <http://www.onestop.umn.edu/onestop/financialaid.html>.

If you are interested in study and employment in public child welfare and want to be considered for a child welfare scholarship for academic year 2009-2010, please submit the application form, annotated resume, and essays. **All applications must be received in CASCW by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009.** You will be notified of your ranking for an award by May. All awards are contingent on CASCW's continued receipt of federal funding.

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Johnston, Child Welfare Student Coordinator, at [njohnsto@umn.edu](mailto:njohnsto@umn.edu) or 612-624-3779. There is also a toll-free long-distance number for the School at 1-800-624-8636 (and ask for Nancy).

The FAX number for the School of Social Work is 612-624-3744. Be sure to use a cover sheet and address your application to CASCW.

**Before applying for a Child Welfare (Title IV-E) Scholarship, please review the following terms and obligations.**

**Terms Pertinent to the Child Welfare Field**

**The Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW) is dedicated to improving the quality of public child welfare services for families and children. Public child welfare services are those provided by state or county government agencies.** These social services promote the welfare of all children through child protection, foster care, adoption and family services.

**Child Welfare Scholarship Obligations**

If awarded a Child Welfare Scholarship, Master's in Social Work (MSW) students are required to:

- have at least one field placement in a county or state child welfare unit (exemptions will only be granted for students who have substantial – usually two years or more - experience in public child welfare services);
- register for child welfare-specific courses and electives in their concentration year (e.g. SW 8301 Advanced Child Welfare Practice, SW 8101 Social Policy & Delivery Systems for Child Welfare & Family Services, SW 5813 Child Welfare & the Law);
- register for 8 or more credits per semester, if receiving full support from the grant (The stipend is prorated for those registering for 7 or fewer credits per term.);
- attend CASCW child welfare meetings and training seminars;
- maintain good academic standing (as defined by MSW program policies); and
- upon exit from the School of Social Work (SSW) at the University of Minnesota, seek employment in the area of child welfare in a public (county or state) agency and commit to such employment for a period of time equal to the length of grant support, month for month. Agree to accept such a position if one is available and offered within three months of your official graduation date. Agree to complete and return official job search forms to CASCW at scheduled intervals. (Failure to provide this information could result in the award recipient having to repay the Title IV-E funds.) Failure to graduate does not provide an exemption from the employment (or repayment) requirements.



The College of Education  
& Human Development  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Center for Advanced Studies  
in **Child Welfare**

Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholarships

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*2009-2010 Application*

CASCW, School of Social Work  
205 Peters Hall  
1404 Gortner Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
612-624-4231, Fax 612-624-3744

**This application form must be TYPED or reproduced on a computer. Handwritten applications will not be accepted and will disqualify you from consideration. You can type in your responses in the form, print it, and mail, FAX, or bring it to the Center in 205 Peters Hall.**

**You must be a United States citizen or permanent resident to receive an award.  
PLEASE ATTACH THE COPIES OF YOUR RESUME AND YOUR ESSAYS TO  
THIS APPLICATION.**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name

Address

City, state, zip

Home phone

Work phone

E-mail address

**UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE INFORMATION**

School of Undergraduate Degree

City & State

Graduation Date

Degree

Major

Cumulative GPA

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Matriculation into MSW Program (Semester & Year)



**CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (Optional)**

Gender:

Predominant Ethnic Background:

African-American

Asian/Pacific Islander

Chicano/Latino

Native American

White

Hispanic

Multi-Ethnic

Other

(please specify)

Fluency in languages other than English? If yes, please specify

## ESSAYS

Please respond to each question with a one- to two-page essay that is typed, double-spaced, and uses standard (10 or 12) font sizes and margins (.75 to 1 inch). Remember to maintain confidentiality when describing experiences with clients.

**Attach your essays to the IV-E application form.**

1. Please discuss your interest in, and commitment to, working in public child welfare services. Illustrate this commitment with examples from your past experiences working with children in, or at-risk of entering, the child welfare system. If you do not have such prior experience, please explain your motivation for working with these children and their families.
2. Describe your short-term and long-term professional goals and how you see MSW-level training in child welfare assisting you in achieving these goals. Please refer back to "Terms Pertinent to the Child Welfare Field" (on page 4), before answering this question.
3. 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.
4. Complete if interested in the MN DHS Children's Services Prevention Program, described above on page 2-3.  
Describe your interest in prevention of child abuse and neglect, including any programs or services of which you are aware or that you think should be offered in Minnesota. Also state your willingness to participate in at least two 2-hour seminars and a student project.
5. Complete if interested in the Children's Bureau Child Welfare Traineeships, described above on page 3.  
Describe your interest and experience in working in a community that is traditionally over-represented in the child welfare system compared to their proportion of the population. Emphasize any ideas you have for involving communities in change that will positively affect children and families. Comment on working with a mentor from that community and attending five all-day leadership institutes.

Please review and complete the checklist on page 1. Be sure you have typed the application and essays as requested and have included a transcript and resume. **Due to CASCW by March 27, 2009, 4:30 pm.**