

SUNO: SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE SCHOLAR

REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATION

Initial Due Date: February 28th

Final Due Date: March 31st



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Status of US citizen or permanent resident required.
- ❖ Must be able to pass a background check
- ❖ Must meet graduation requirements
- ❖ Participate in professional development training and attend conferences
- ❖ Participate in Child Welfare Training Academy Children's Corp. group with current and former Title IV-E Scholars
- ❖ Participate in research regarding child welfare, both as a scholar and later as an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)
- ❖ Must meet internship requirements in a designated Department of Children and Family Service Office that require home visits (e.g., Family Services, Foster Care or Adoptions)
- ❖ Receive a financial scholarship for educational expense to include tuition and fees
- ❖ Completion of a contract / payback agreement if obligations are not complete
- ❖ Must commit to work for the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services for a minimum of one (1) year subsequent to being awarded the BSW or MSW degree

- ❖ Must submit a completed application, transcripts, three (3) letters of references and responses to essay questions

REQUIREMENTS FOR BSW SCHOLARS

- ❖ BSW senior entering Field I
- ❖ Must complete two (2) Children, Youth and Families (CYF) electives
- ❖ Must maintain good academic standing throughout the program with a 2.5 GPA
- ❖ \$7,500 financial scholarship for educational expense to include tuition and fees for BSW scholars

REQUIREMENTS FOR MSW SCHOLARS

- ❖ Must be a senior entering Field III
- ❖ Concentration: Children Youth and Family (CYF) or Health/ Mental Health (H/MH)
- ❖ Must maintain good academic standing throughout the program with a 3.0 GPA
- ❖ \$9,500 financial scholarship for educational expense to include tuition and fees for MSW scholars

❖ **For more information, contact:**

Monique Hurst- mhurst@suno.edu

Camille Alexander- calexander@suno.edu

Application and Reference Instructions

The applicant is responsible for completing the application for the Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholar Training Program and returning it to the Social Work office# 222 or via e-mail at mhurst@suno.edu by the deadline. The narrative question should be submitted as an essay, typed attachment to the application, providing a response to each of the questions.

The applicant is responsible for requesting and obtaining three (3) references using the attached reference forms. The references are to include two (2) faculty members and one (1) professional that has supervised you in either a work or internship setting. If you choose to use someone other than faculty members or a professional who has supervised you through employment or internship, please attach an explanation to your application. References must be submitted with the application package. Three reference forms are included in this application.

MSW Advanced Standing applicants (those applying for Field III) may use faculty and/or field instructors from his/her BSW program.

Initial Deadline: February 28th

Final Deadline: March 31st

A completed application packet (application, transcripts, essay questions, and references) must be received by this deadline.

Child Welfare Scholar Interviews:

If selected, you will be provided interview dates once your completed application packet has been received and reviewed.

If you have questions, please contact:

Monique Hurst, LMSW
Title IV-E Program Coordinator
[*mhurst@suno.edu*](mailto:mhurst@suno.edu)
Office # 222

Camille Alexander, MSW, RSW
Admissions Coordinator
[*calexander@suno.edu*](mailto:calexander@suno.edu)
Office # 214

Southern University at New Orleans
School of Social Work
6801 Press Drive
New Orleans, LA 70126

APPLICATION

Name:	Email:	
Telephone		
Home:	Work:	Cell:
Address:		
US Citizen? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Student ID #:
<i>Status as a US citizen or permanent resident required.</i>		

Grade Point Average	
COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS	Please attach current transcripts (unofficial) to this application.

List References here:
Faculty:
Faculty:
Professional:
Explanation attached <i>If you utilized non-faculty, less than two faculty or someone who has not supervised as reference.</i>

Do you have your own transportation? Yes No

All applicants are required to pass a criminal background check at the DCFS. If you will have difficulties passing this, you may wish not to apply for this because it is required for the field placement and for employment upon completion of the training program. ***(All applicants must pass the State of Louisiana criminal background check to be eligible.)***

Do not answer on this application, but here is an example of what is required. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (If yes, please attach a statement of explanation.)

Yes No

Are you willing to participate in an evaluation of the Child Welfare Curriculum Project?

Yes No

Have you ever been employed by DCFS?

Yes No

Please respond to each of the 8 questions listed below in typed, essay format. Attach additional pages to the application as needed. Please remember to maintain confidentiality when describing experiences with clients.

1) Reflection Exercise

Before completing the answers to the essay questions below, view the video; **“Is Child Welfare the Job for You?”** at the link – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oV6wdP_1iCI (It may be necessary to cut and paste the link or search the title on YouTube).

This video is 16 minutes long and was produced by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services for Title IV-E child welfare scholars and others who are anticipating employment in public child welfare. We are asking you to view this video so you will understand the commitment, challenges and rewards of a career in public child welfare.

After viewing the video, answer the questions below with a few sentences for each question. Your responses must be typed and can be attached to the application.

- a. How did the video affect/impact your thoughts about child welfare? Please provide specific examples.
 - b. What aspects of child welfare are most attractive to you?
 - c. What aspect of the job featured in the video would be the most difficult for you?
- 2. Briefly describe your work and/or internship experiences as related to the field of social work. (Attach a resume to this application.)**
 - 3. Discuss your interest in and commitment to working with children and families in child welfare services. Please illustrate this commitment with examples from your past experiences working with at-risk children and their families. If you do not have prior experience, please explain your motivation for working with this population, children and families.**
 - 4) Please reflect on your own experiences and commitment to culturally competent social work practice with clients who are not of your own racial, ethnic, cultural identification, political, sexual orientation or religious beliefs. How do you see your own values and personal bias potentially impacting your practice?**
 - 5) Many clients who utilize the services of DCFS programs are affected by poverty, mental illness, developmental disorders, addictions, etc. In what ways are you prepared to interact with families with these challenges?**
 - 6) What strengths will you bring to the placement?**
 - 7) Briefly describe your beliefs as to what is the most powerful influence in a child’s life.**
 - 8) Describe your short-term and long-term professional goals and how you believe this training in child welfare can assist you in achieving these goals.**

SUNO School of Social Work and the Department of Children and Family Services

Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholar

Reference Form

Must be completed by applicant:

Last Name: _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial: _____

Name of Recommender: _____

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you may waive your right to inspect this recommendation. Please check the appropriate box and sign below. Should you decide not to waive the right, you will have access to the recommendation if you enroll in the SUNO School of Social Work.

I hereby waive my right of access to this reference. _____
Signature Date

I DO NOT waive my right of access to this reference. _____
Signature Date

Must be completed by reference:

Name:

Address:

Phone: Email:

Signature: Date:

In what capacity have you known the applicant?

How long have you known the applicant?

Reference forms must be received by this deadline to be considered.

Please mail the completed form to **Monique Hurst, LMSW**
Southern University at New Orleans
School of Social Work
6801 Press Drive
New Orleans, LA 70126
mhurst@suno.edu

Please rate the applicant's personal & professional characteristics using the scale listed below:

	UTE	1	2	3	4	5
	Unable to evaluate	Poor	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent
Motivation to Learn						
Perseverance with tasks & assignments						
Demonstration of initiative						
Conscientiousness						
Demonstration of acceptance of multi-problem families						
Communication skills – verbal						
Communication skills – written						
Ability to work with clients from diverse backgrounds						
Interest in working with families and children						
Demonstration of professional ethics necessary to work in child protection, foster care & adoption						
Ability to work effectively with others						
Tolerance for working within a bureaucracy						

Please add any further comments about the suitability of the applicant:
 (You may attach a separate letter with comments instead of writing here if this is easier for you.)

What is your overall recommendation of the applicant for a child welfare stipend?

_____ **Highly Recommended**

_____ **Recommended**

_____ **Recommended with Reservation (please explain)**

_____ **Not Recommended (please explain)**

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- Recommended with Reservation (please explain)**
- Not Recommended (please explain)**

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PACKET SUBMISSION

To ensure that your applications submission is completed with all of the necessary information, please review your packet.

The documents listed below should be included:

- APPLICATION
- REFLECTION EXERCISE
- THREE (3) REFERENCES
- UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT (current)
- RESUME

Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy Mission

“To provide a comprehensive array of training and professional development opportunities to individuals who are interested in child welfare, to include scholars, DCFS staff and stakeholders

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Mission

“Caring for the safety and well-being of Louisiana’s people”

In Child Welfare

*we are continuously pursuing the
Safety, Permanency & Well-Being
of every child we serve.*