

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

Deadline: January 29, 2021

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 2021-2022 Academic Year:

BSW Awards:

\$10,000 award/18-month employment obligation

MSW Awards:

\$8,000 award (part-time MSW)/12-month employment obligation

\$11,000 award (F/T MSW)/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.
- Have reliable transportation to complete travel requirements for field practicum and employment.

***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.
- Verification of reliable transportation to complete travel requirements for field practicum and employment.

Monica Montoya, College Asst. Professor/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

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

Aggie 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:

BSW junior year

Full-time MSW 1st yr.

BSW senior year

Full-time MSW 2nd yr.

Full-time MSW Advanced Standing

Part-time MSW

Campus:

Main

Scholar Award Status Applying for:

Albuquerque

1st scholar award

Online**

2nd scholar award

Online students must be able to commit to a CYFD Field Placement and employment with CYFD upon graduation.

3rd scholar award (P/T MSW only)

Please complete the following:

1. Are you a U.S. citizen?	Yes No
2. Are you a Legal Permanent Resident?	Yes No
3. Do you have a valid driver's license? If not, please describe your circumstances. _____ _____	Yes No
4. Do you have a method of transportation? If not, please describe your circumstances. If no, indicate a plan as to how you intend to complete field related travel. _____	Yes 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>Yes No</p>
<p>6. Have you ever received a deferred prosecution, deferred judgment, been convicted, pled guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal charge in any state, territory, 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>Yes 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>Yes No</p>
<p>8. Have you ever plea-bargained a charge of child abuse, neglect, or molestation?</p>	<p>Yes No</p>
<p>9. Have you ever been substantiated as a perpetrator as the result of an abuse/neglect investigation?</p>	<p>Yes No</p>
<p>10. If you answered “yes” to Questions 8 or 9 please explain the circumstances: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Yes No</p>
<p>11. Are you on Academic Probation? If so, please explain your circumstances. _____ _____</p>	<p>Yes No</p>
<p>12. Are you employed at the NM Children, Youth and Families Department?</p>	<p>Yes No</p>
<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?</p>	<p>Yes No</p>

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?	Yes No
15. Do you agree to complete a full background check before being accepted as a scholar?	Yes 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 MSW's). 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?	Yes No
17. Do you agree to accept employment in any Protective Services Field Office as determined by CYFD upon graduation?	Yes 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?	Yes No
19. Do you agree to attend preparatory study groups and licensing workshops that are required for the licensing exam as scheduled by NMSU?	Yes No

BSW ONLY:

1. Are you a declared social work major?	Yes No
2. What is the total number of credits you have completed?	_____

3. Are you planning to pursue an MSW immediately following graduation?	Yes	No
4. You are required to enroll in child welfare related course(s) 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?	Yes	No

MSW ONLY:

1. You are required to enroll your graduating year in child welfare related course(s) designed for Child Welfare Scholars. These must be taken for credit. Will you sign an agreement to this effect?	Yes	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.
18. Please indicate three (3) county preferences you would like to be considered for employment with CYFD-PSD. (If you have not done so already or are choosing to revise your initial preference list).

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.

Female

Male

Martial Status

Single

Married

Separated

Divorced

Other

Ethnic Identification

Native American

African American

Hispanic

Asian American

Caucasian-Other

Second Language: Are you bilingual?

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

Signature

Date