

GRANT APPLICATION

The MSW Program at Westfield State University will provide \$645,000 in direct student training stipends for the 2024-2025 academic year. ***MSW students entering into their Advanced Year Practicum are eligible to apply.*** The purpose of each grant is to increase the behavioral health workforce in specific areas: medically underserved areas, within public sector settings, and in settings that provide harm reduction methods to combat the opioid epidemic.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

All *completed* applications (including an updated resume) are due no later than January 30, 2024. The grant application is a supplemental application and *does not* take the place of the standard WSU MSW Practicum Application that is required of all students entering the practicum internship. Documents are to be sent electronically to the Practicum Department at socialworkfield@westfield.ma.edu

Which grant are you applying for? *You may apply for all 3 grants, but can only receive one.*

- Integrated Behavioral Health Collaboration (IBHC) Grant
- Executive Office of Health and Human Services: Department of Mental Health (DMH) Grant
- RIZE Harm Reduction HaRT Scholar Program (RIZE) Grant

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ **Student ID** _____

Currently enrolled in: MSW, Westfield MSW, Online

Note: Only students entering the MSW Advanced Practicum are eligible to apply for the Fellowship.

- MSW 2 Year Full-time Program
- MSW 3-Year Part-time Program
- MSW 4 Year Part-time Program
- MSW Full-time Advanced Standing Program
- MSW Part-time Advanced Standing Program

One of the goals of the workforce grants at WSU is to ensure the participation of students from diverse backgrounds (racial, cultural, geographic, and class), students identifying as sexual and/or gender minorities, and students representing linguistic minorities. The following questions reflect those areas.

Racial and/or Ethnic Group (check all that apply)

- American Indian/Alaskan
- Hispanic/Latino
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Black/African American
- Other _____
- Decline to state

Native or primary language:

- English
- Spanish
- ASL
- Other _____

Second language capacity:

- English
- Spanish
- ASL
- Other _____

Gender Identity:

- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- Genderqueer, do not identify as male or female
- Other _____
- Decline to state

Sexual Orientation: Do you think of yourself as... *(check all that apply)*

- Straight or heterosexual
- Lesbian, gay, or homosexual
- Bisexual
- Other _____
- Declined to state

Disadvantaged Background (Defined as individuals who are economically disadvantaged by coming from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds and/or individuals

who come from a disadvantaged environment (examples include a person from a school district where 50% or less graduates go to college, person for who English is not the primary language or for whom language is a barrier to academic performance, person who is a first generation to attend college, person from a high school where at least 30% of enrolled students are eligible for free/reduced lunches; these examples are for guidance only & not intended to be all inclusive.)

Yes

No

REFERENCE

All Applicants are required to provide a professional reference who can speak to your leadership ability, reliability, and his/her/their perception of your professional potential as a clinical social worker within the grant related settings. Providing the information below and your signature on this application indicate your permission for the Grants Review Committee to contact the reference listed below.

Reference Name _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Email _____ Phone _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Complete the personal statement for the grant you wish to apply for; you may apply for all 3 grants by completing each personal statement. NOTE: You are only eligible to receive funding from 1 grant.

Integrated Behavioral Health Collaboration (IBHC) Grant

+ federal funds + \$10,000 training stipend + requires the same 500 advanced practicum hours as the MSW Program + Increase the behavioral health workforce in medically underserved areas to improve social determinants of health and promote health equity

- requires completion of a health equity project
- requires placement in an interprofessional setting
- requires participation in an interprofessional simulation and additional readings
- In no more than 750 words:

1. describe your background, skills, and knowledge in working with vulnerable populations and/or in medically underserved areas.
2. address your professional interest and/or experience as a Clinical Social Worker working interprofessionally within integrated behavioral health settings, larger health equity or social determinants of health issues.
3. Identify your professional goals and how the IBHC Fellowship would assist you in meeting those goals.
4. include your plans regarding a specialization in the MSW program



Executive Office of Health and Human Services: Department of Mental Health (DMH) Grant

+ state funds + \$17,000 training stipend + requires the same 500 advanced practicum hours as the MSW Program + Increase the behavioral health workforce in community-based public sector settings

- requires placement in a public sector behavioral health setting
- requires participation in an interprofessional simulation
- In no more than 750 words:

1. describe your background, interest, skills, and knowledge in working within community based public sector behavioral health care settings.
2. Identify your professional interest and/or experience as a Social Worker working with children, youth, and adults living with serious emotional disturbance, severe mental illness, and/or substance use disorder and their families.
3. Include your professional goals and how the DMH Grant Program would assist you in meeting those goals.



RIZE Harm Reduction HaRT Scholar Program (RIZE) Grant

+ quasi-state funds + \$13,000 training stipend + requires the 500 advanced practicum hours as the MSW Program AND an additional 220 hours for a total of 720 hours + addresses the opiate epidemic by increasing the behavioral health workforce trained in harm reduction

- requires placement in a harm reduction setting
- requires an additional 220 hours
- requires participation in additional trainings on harm reduction
- In no more than 750 words:

1. Describe your interests and/or experience in working with individuals who have been diagnosed with substance use disorders
2. Discuss the skills, knowledge and values that make you prepared to work with this population.
3. Identify your career goals with respect to working with individuals who have substance use disorders and where you see yourself in five years.

APPLICATION AGREEMENTS

Please read the following carefully with the understanding that your responses and signature on the application reflect your commitment to all aspects of the IBHC Fellowship if accepted.

I am in good academic standing (i.e. not on academic probation, have no incompletes in courses and/or failing grades).

yes

no

I agree that it is my responsibility to notify the IBHC, DMH, or RIZE Project Director if my academic standing changes after I submit my application and/or at any time during the Fellowship.

yes no

I agree to complete all of the Requirements of the Grant detailed above in this application.

yes no

I understand that all Grant stipend awards are contingent upon release of federal or state funds by the corresponding funding source.

yes no

Type Full Name as Electronic Signature _____

Date _____