



Public Behavioral Health MSW Training Program

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Agenda

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- **Logistics**
- **Training Requirements**
- **Additional Training Commitments**
- **Program Funding, Tracking and Reporting**
- **Questions**



Public Behavioral Health MSW Training Program

OVERVIEW

Program Funding and Goals

- Funded by the California Office of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) as part of a statewide behavioral health workforce development initiative
- Central goals are:
 - To better prepare MSW students to provide effective, evidence-based behavioral health care in publicly funded programs and settings
 - To better prepare new MSWs to proactively support the integration of behavioral health care services with and within other public services and systems
 - To enhance the retention and development of MSWs in public behavioral health programs and settings



Program Footprint

- AY 2024-25 is the second of three training years in a five year funding agreement between HCAI and CalSWEC
- We expect the PBH MSW Training program to transition to a new university host on or around July 1, 2024 and to continue without interruption or substantive changes
- In AY 2024-25, the program will provide training and stipend support to up to 200 MSW student trainees through sub-awards to up to 20 participating MSW programs



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LOGISTICS

Trainee Award Guidelines

- MSW students are accepted into the PBH MSW Training Program for one academic year at a time
- MSW students may apply to the program for one year of foundation training and one year of advanced training, in different academic years
- Acceptance into the training program for one year of foundation training does NOT guarantee acceptance for a second year of advanced training
- MSW students may participate in the training program for a maximum of two academic years

Trainee Eligibility Criteria

- The Public Behavioral Health MSW Training Program is open to MSW students who are:
 - Enrolled in participating MSW programs as full time, part time or advanced standing students, in face to face, online or hybrid formats as allowed by the MSW program
 - Entering the planned training year of MSW study in good academic standing
 - Matched/matching with field placements for the training year in publicly funding provide behavioral health care sites/programs
 - Not receiving funding support from any other HCAI administered training, stipend or scholarship program

Trainee Selection Criteria

- The Public Behavioral Health MSW Training Program seeks MSW students who demonstrate:
 - Interest in and commitment to learning about the issues, challenges and needs specific to behavioral health care practice in public service settings
 - Linguistic and cultural competencies that align with the needs of underserved consumers in CA
 - Demonstrated, strong and sustained commitment to social work careers in California's public behavioral health care systems, programs and settings

Application Procedures

- CalSWEC creates a Qualtrics-based training program application and shares the application link with all MSW program partners
- MSW programs share Qualtrics link for the application with potential applicants on their campuses
- Each MSW program sets its own timeline for release of the application, application deadline, interviews, and award notifications
- This schedule typically depends on campus-specific timing for advanced year field placement matches and program admissions
- Applicants should follow their MSW programs' application timelines
- CalSWEC provides application data to each MSW program as requested

Trainee Selection Process

- CalSWEC is NOT involved in the review of applications or the selection of trainees in any way
- MSW programs review all submitted applications, identify and conduct panel interviews with finalists, and select awardees
- MSW programs hold panel interviews for finalists that include both faculty and community members
- MSW programs notify selected trainees after verifying that they are matched with eligible field placements for the training year
- CalSWEC verifies field placement eligibility again in the fall, before trainees sign student service agreements and before stipend funding is awarded



PBH Stipend Awards

- Stipends for **full time students** (based on campus enrollment rules) are \$25,000 per academic year
 - Trainees will receive stipends in two disbursements:
 - \$12,500 in mid to late fall semester
 - \$12,500 in mid spring semester
- Stipends for **part time students** (based on campus enrollment rules) are \$12,500 per academic year
 - Trainees will receive stipends in two disbursements:
 - \$6,250 in mid to late fall semester
 - \$6,250 in mid spring semester



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TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Foundation Year Coursework

- Foundation year trainees must complete all required general and behavioral health-focused courses as specified by the MSW program
 - These should be the foundational practice, policy and research courses in which students interested in behavioral health direct service typically enroll
 - The appropriate courses are whatever courses are recommended as preparation for an advanced year behavioral health option or concentration
 - OR for the closest equivalent to such an option or concentration at that MSW program (vs. courses that serve as preparation for options in child welfare, aging, etc.)

Advanced Year Coursework

- Advanced year trainees must complete all behavioral health-focused courses as required and/or specified by the MSW program
 - These should be the advanced practice, policy and research courses in which students focused on direct services practice/behavioral health care typically enroll
 - The appropriate courses are whatever courses are required for an advanced year behavioral health option or concentration
 - OR for the closest equivalent at that MSW program if no such option/concentration exists (vs. courses required for options in child welfare, aging, macro practice, etc.)

Field Training Requirements

- Foundation year field training must involve the student contributing to the delivery of publicly funded behavioral health care services
- Advanced year field training must involve the student providing publicly funded behavioral health care services
- Eligible field training sites for both training years include but are not limited to community-based behavioral health care clinics and agencies, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, schools/districts, SELPAs, colleges, inpatient and outpatient health care settings, AND child welfare, regional center, juvenile delinquency, court, and adult corrections units that offer publicly funded behavioral health care programs and services

Field Seminar Expectations

- If possible, all PBH trainees should enroll in a designated field seminar for PBH trainees that focuses extensively on social work behavioral health practice in public systems
- If the MSW program determines it cannot offer a designated APS field seminar:
 - Foundation year PBH trainees must enroll in the field seminar best for students training in public behavioral health sites, per the MSW program
 - Advanced year PBH trainees must enroll in the field seminar best for students training in public behavioral health sites, per the MSW program
 - The MSW program must organize, schedule and engage all PBH trainees in monthly enhancements to the field seminar focused specifically on social work behavioral health care practice in public service systems

Additional Training Requirements

- PBH Trainees enrolled in an MSW program that offers a Behavioral Health certificate must complete the requirements for that certificate, as specified by the MSW program, during the training year
- PBH trainees must complete all enhancements and additions to the field seminar focused on key skills for social work practice with in public behavioral health care settings, as designated and scheduled by the MSW program during the training year
- PBH trainees must complete all virtual trainings focused on key skills for social work practice in public behavioral health care settings, as designated and scheduled by CalSWEC during the training year



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ADDITIONAL TRAINEE COMMITMENTS

Additional Trainee Commitments

- PBH Trainees must commit to:
 - Participating in all program meetings and trainings scheduled by the MSW program and by CalSWEC during the training year
 - Completing all pre-/post- training surveys as requested and on time during the training year
 - Providing updated contact info at MSW graduation
 - Completing annual follow-up surveys as requested and on time for up to seven years after MSW graduation
 - Completing the post-graduation service obligation
 - Pursuing LCSW licensure

Post-Graduation Service Obligation

- For each year of training, PBH graduates are required to complete the equivalent of 12 months of full time service employment
- Service employment must be in master's level positions providing publicly funded behavioral health care services
- Eligible service sites include community-based behavioral health care clinics and agencies, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, schools/districts, SELPAs, colleges, inpatient and outpatient health care sites AND child welfare, regional center, juvenile delinquency, court and adult corrections units with publicly funded behavioral health programs and services, etc
- PBH Graduates must verify pursuit of LCSW licensure via BBS registration and the accrual of required hours

Post-Graduation Repayment Obligation

- PBH Training program graduates who fail to complete the required service obligation by their deadline (based on graduation date) must repay the stipend provided through the PBH MSW Training Program
- Graduates who fulfill NONE of the service obligation are required to repay all stipend funding in full
- Graduates who fulfill SOME but NOT ALL of the service obligation are required to repay a prorated amount based on the total hours of eligible service completed
- Stipend funding repayment plans typically involve monthly payments spread out over 12 to 24 months and may include interest and processing fees as well as stipend funding



Public Behavioral Health MSW Training Program

PROGRAM FUNDING, TRACKING & REPORTING

Tracking and Reporting Obligations

- CalSWEC tracks all PBH MSW Training Program participants and graduates after program completion
- CalSWEC verifies and documents all PBH graduates' completion of the service obligation, pursuit of LCSW licensure, and cash repayment of stipend funding
- CalSWEC notifies the relevant MSW program whenever a PBH graduate enters cash repayment and works with the MSW program to establish the repayment plan
- MSW programs will NOT be held fiscally responsible for graduate defaults on stipend repayment plans

Questions?

- Students should reach out to their MSW programs' PBH MSW Training Program coordinators (in consultation with field directors/field faculty as appropriate) with questions about:
 - The eligibility of specific foundation and advanced year field placements for the PBH MSW Training Program
 - Timelines for program applications, interviews and awardee selection
- Students should reach out to CalSWEC's IBH Program by emailing Martina Parashkevova at martinap@berkeley.edu or E. Maxwell Davis at emdavis@berkeley.edu about:
 - Questions not addressed in these slides
 - Technical difficulties with the APS MSW Training Program application

