



Application

Application to be a stipend recipient is open to admitted students in the Minnesota State University, Mankato Master of Social Work Program and is only open to students advancing into the specialization year field practicum.

Practicum Sites

Selected initiative students work with the Master of Social Work Director of Field Education during the fall semester to identify an appropriate practicum site for the concentration year field placement. While there are a number of initiative partner agencies, the Field Education program works closely with the students to find a placement that is an ideal fit.

The Southern Minnesota Behavioral Health Initiative is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration.

To find out more:

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MASTER OF
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Southern Minnesota
Behavioral Health
Initiative

At a glance



Department of
Social Work

COLLEGE OF
SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Goals

- > To prepare MSW-level students for advanced clinical social work practice in rural behavioral healthcare settings with particular attention to practice in integrated care settings.
- > To enhance the behavioral health workforce in Southern Minnesota
- > To assist students financially so that they can focus on their education

Basics

- > Three-year grant (2017-2021) from SAMHSA/BHWET - \$99, 975/year
- > Open to students in specialization year of MSW program
- > Selected students commit to
 - 1) a clinical practicum focusing on integrated behavioral health care
 - 2) completing an elective course with clinical content that complements their preparation for social work practice
 - 3) participate in all aspects of the initiative; and
 - 4) after graduation, explore career options in clinical practice in Southern Minnesota or other geographically underserved areas.



Initiative Elements

Student Stipend

Provides six students each year with a stipend of \$10,000 during their specialization year practicum. The practicum most focus on clinical social work practice in rural/underserved communities. Practicum agencies will receive \$1200 as compensation for their commitment to working with students.

Enhanced Curriculum

Stipend recipients (and potentially other students) will complete an elective course on clinical social work practice. Elective courses are offered throughout the academic year.

Interprofessional Workshops

Stipend recipients, faculty, graduate students and field instructors will have an opportunity to attend a series of interprofessional workshops with content focusing on expanding knowledge and skills of social workers in integrated primary behavioral healthcare settings.

Training for Practicum Agencies

The grant provides training for practicum agency partners on social work practice in rural primary integrated behavioral healthcare settings.

Training for Social workers

The grant supports funding for speakers for the Minnesota State Mankato MSSA Region IX Summer Conference. The speakers will focus on elements of social work practice relevant to advanced practice in primary integrated behavioral healthcare settings. This training will enhance the knowledge and skills of the existing behavioral health workforce in southern Minnesota.

Professional development funds also support additional training opportunities for stipend recipients, field instructors, and faculty.