MFP Doctoral Fellowship

Overview

The Council on Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) Doctoral Fellowship is designed to reduce health disparities and improve healthcare outcomes of diverse populations by increasing the number of culturally competent behavioral health leaders. Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the doctoral fellowship supports social work doctoral students committed to pursuing careers in leadership, practice, teaching, research, consultation, training, policy development, and program administration. Through recruitment and selection of talented students, MFP has supported over 750 doctoral-level social workers committed working as part of the mental health workforce.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be American citizen, noncitizen national, or have permanent residence status (international students, DACA students, and work visa holders are not eligible at this time)
- The fellowship is targeted to but not limited to minority ethnic/racial individuals
- Must have a master's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program and be starting full-time study leading to a doctoral degree in social work OR be currently enrolled as a full-time student in a doctoral social work program
- Demonstrate potential for assuming a leadership role providing mental health and/or substance use disorder services to ethnic/racial minority individuals and communities, and potential for success in doctoral studies
- Cannot receive another source of federal funding during the fellowship year (federal loans excluded).

Key Selection Criteria

- Evidence of strong fit with and commitment to behavioral health services for underserved racial/ethnic populations
- Life experiences relevant to and/or volunteer or work experience with racial/ethnic minority populations
- High quality scholarly writing showing ability to think and write at the doctoral level
- Academic evidence of ability to achieve timely degree completion
- Behavioral health services or research agenda fit with MFP mission

Award

The doctoral fellowship provides a monthly financial stipend of approximately \$2,100 in addition to training, and professional development opportunities. MFP doctoral fellows receive mentoring, access to social work networks, and other non-financial benefits. The fellowship is awarded one year at a time with eligibility for up to three years, contingent on the funding received by the program and the fellow's satisfactory progress toward degree completion.

Application materials are posted to the CSWE website when the application period opens. For more information, please visit www.cswe.org/mfp or email mfp@cswe.org.

COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

MFP Master's Fellowship

Overview

The Council on Social Work Education Master's Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) is designed to enhance the training of full-time, direct-practice focused, master's social work students in their final year of study at a CSWE-accredited program. Fellows must identify mental health and/or substance use disorder service delivery to racial/ethnic minority communities as their focus and be committed to seeking employment in this field with the target population post-graduation.

The MFP Master's program is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for the purpose of reducing health disparities and improving health-care outcomes of racially and ethnically diverse populations by increasing the number of culturally competent master's-level behavioral health professionals in the public and private nonprofit sectors serving the target population. Through recruitment and selection of talented students, MFP has supported more than 300 master's-level social workers committed to the behavioral health workforce.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be an advanced (final year or advanced standing), direct practice-focused, master's-level student committed to providing mental health and/or substance use disorder services to racial/ethnic minority populations.
- Enrollment in a CSWE-accredited master's program full-time (per the program's standards)
- Must be an American citizen, noncitizen national, or permanent resident (international students, DACA students, and work visa holders are not eligible to apply at this time)
- Enrollment in two advanced master's of social work courses in one or both of following categories is required during the social work master's program: (1) mental health and/or co-occurring substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery; (2) culturally competent evidence-based practices; and
- Placed in an appropriate internship/placement setting providing mental health and/or substance use disorder services to the target population (documentation from the program required)
- Cannot receive another source of federal funding (e.g. HRSA, Title IV-E, IHS) during the fellowship year (federal loans excluded);
- Committed to pursuing employment in behavioral health with the target population immediately after graduation, for at least two years;
- The fellowship is targeted to but not limited to minority ethnic/racial groups.

Award

Fellowship recipients receive a 1-year fellowship that includes specialized training (in-person and virtual) on mental health and/or substance use disorder issues of racial/ethnic minority populations; a monetary stipend of approximately \$10,000 annually (distributed quarterly); and other professional development supports.

Application materials are posted to the website when the application period opens. For more information, please visit www.cswe.org/mfp or email mfp@cswe.org.