

TITLE IV-E STIPEND PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The Title IV-E Child Welfare Stipend Program provides professional education and student support to graduate and undergraduate social work students preparing for the field of public child welfare. CalSWEC contracts with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide Title IV-E Stipend Program funding to 22 California schools of social work. Financial support for students is provided through federal Title IV-E training funds under the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is administered through the CDSS.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

CalSWEC currently administers the Title IV-E MSW, BASW, and Pathway Stipend Programs at 22 accredited schools of social work/welfare in California. Each of these programs share the following components:

Recruitment and selection of program participants

Each school has an awards committee with local qualifying agencies (county, state, and Tribal child welfare organizations) to award support to admitted students, prioritizing current staff members in qualifying agencies, and students who reflect the diversity of California's child welfare population. In the cases of students not currently employed in a qualifying agency, the decision to provide support will be, to the greatest extent possible, equivalent to prequalification for qualifying agency employment.

Integration of CalSWEC Competencies for Public Child Welfare into classroom and field education

Each school delivers a curriculum directed at the outcomes defined by the CalSWEC Curriculum Competencies for Public Child Welfare both in the classroom and in field placement. Each school works with qualifying agencies, schools, and/or non-profit agencies serving Title IV-E clients to ensure that appropriate field placements providing child welfare services are maintained and enhanced support is provided to qualifying agencies to ensure integration of the CalSWEC Curriculum Competencies for Public Child Welfare into field instruction and education.

Monetary support to students and employment obligation in a qualifying position at a qualifying agency

	MSW (22 schools)	BASW (6 schools)
Full-time	Length of Educational Program: 2 years Monetary Support: Stipend of \$18,500/year Employment Obligation: 2 years FTE at a qualifying agency	Length of Educational Program: 1 year for final year of study Monetary Support: Stipend of \$15,000 Employment Obligation: 1 year FTE at a qualifying agency
Part-time*	Length of Educational Program: Varies Monetary Support: Reimbursement of actual cost of tuition, fees, books, and travel, not to exceed \$14,164 per year, for up to 3 years Employment Obligation: 2 years FTE at a qualifying agency	Length of Educational Program: Varies Monetary Support: Reimbursement of actual cost of tuition, fees, books, and travel, not to exceed \$14,164 per year, for up to 3 years Employment Obligation: 1 year FTE at a qualifying agency

The Pathway Program is a part-time distance education program delivered by three schools within the consortium to develop the workforce in rural and remote regions of the state, including Tribes and Indigenous communities. The Pathway Program includes students at the MSW level and the final year of BASW level who are Tribal or public social services employees.

**All part-time programs are designated for current social services employees at qualifying agencies.*

Major Accomplishments

CalSWEC is the nation's largest state coalition of social work educators and practitioners. From its inception, the Title IV-E Program has been part of this unique collaboration of government and academia.

- From 1993 to July 2017, the Title IV-E Stipend Program graduated 8,317 MSW, BASW, and Pathway students.
- Despite economic shifts affecting hiring in 2003 and 2009–2012, 95% of IV-E MSWs have been hired in child welfare agencies since 1993. Among the graduates of the IV-E BASW Program, 75% have found work with county or Tribal child welfare agencies since that program's inception in 2004.
- The IV-E program has succeeded in increasing workforce diversity. With the exception of the 1994 graduates, the percentage of Caucasian IV-E students and graduates has been less than 40%. Since 2007, the proportion of Hispanics has consistently surpassed that of Caucasians as the major ethnicity.
- The racial/ethnic composition of IV-E students and graduates provides a comparable match for the diversity of clients in the California child welfare system.
- Among the 8,317 Title IV-E students and graduates, 3,694 (44%) speak, write, or sign a language other than English.
- MSW, BASW and Pathway graduates have been employed in 55 of California's 58 counties.
- Title IV-E evaluation staff have conducted several longitudinal evaluation studies to understand workplace and worker characteristics, and how those relate to worker retention, published over 27 peer-reviewed journal publications, and presented at many statewide and national conferences.
- The Title IV-E Stipend Program has provided funding to schools to develop and implement special projects, including both field- and classroom-based specialized public child welfare curricula, and university-agency research and evaluation partnerships.
- The CalSWEC Network Hub, an online learning objects repository (LOR) platform hosted on OER Commons, officially launched in March 2017. The Network Hub serves as an online platform that can be used by Title IV-E Project Coordinators, campus instructors, and others in the CalSWEC consortium to find, use, and adapt educational materials.

CalSWEC Mission

CalSWEC facilitates and supports statewide partnerships for the education and training of social workers to ensure culturally responsive, effective, and high-quality health and social service delivery to the people of California.

In support of its Mission, CalSWEC's Goals are to:

- Prepare a diverse group of social workers for careers in human services, with special emphasis in the fields of child welfare, integrated behavioral health, and aging
- Define and operationalize a continuum of social work education and training
- Engage in evaluation, research, and dissemination of best practices in social work