

**Application for Child Welfare Stipend
Department of Social Work
Colorado State University-Pueblo**

COVER PAGE – BASIC INFORMATION

This application must be completed in addition to the application for admission to the field experience in the social work major. The following criteria **must** be met:

- Applicants must be admitted to the social work major;
- Applicants must be ready for the first series of fall semester 300-level courses;
- Applicants must sign an informed consent acknowledging understanding of the expectations of and parameters surrounding the child welfare stipend;
- The application will include a practice scenario response;
- Applications are due by November 15 of the fall semester, to be followed by a formal interview no later than March 1 of the Spring semester of their junior year;
- Applicants must demonstrate an interest in child welfare, such as shadowing experiences, volunteering for children’s organizations, research into foster care/adoptions, etc., so that the practice field is the goal, not the stipend;
- Priority will be given to those who are bilingual in a desired language, which may vary by region;
- Applicants will be interviewed by a committee made up of faculty and current caseworkers or child welfare agency staff;
- Applicants will be rated by faculty members using a rubric developed from the child welfare competencies and including general characteristics such as timeliness, quality of work, maturity, etc.; students will be given this feedback;
- Only students who are ready for concurrent field can take advantage of the stipend opportunity;
- Applicants **must be able to pass security clearance screens for work with children, including but not limited to background checks from the CBI, FBI for students in CO for less than 2 years, driving records, and any other background checks required by the county DHS where the student applies to work;**
- The amount of the stipend per student will vary according to the full award amount received by CSU-Pueblo and by rural/urban distinction;
- In addition to the generalist curriculum of the BSW, applicants will be expected to take electives in child welfare, rural social work, case management, trauma, and should choose other electives from the following selections:
 - Abnormal psychology
 - Child and adolescent development
 - Marriage and families and/or family violence
 - Public policy
 - Social psychology
 - Nationalism and ethnic conflict and/or immigration
 - States’, citizens’, and human rights
 - Minority and ethnic relations and/or race relations
 - Other electives approved by department chair or field education director and
- **Applicants must agree to work for at least 1 year in a child welfare agency or repay all stipend monies received.**

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Applicant's Name:	Year of study: Junior Senior
I am admitted to the social work major: Yes No	I am ready for concurrent field: Yes No
I am in good academic standing: Yes No	My cumulative GPA is:
I have the following experiences or coursework demonstrating that I have an interest in child welfare as a field of practice:	
Have you ever had a founded abuse or neglect of children case in any state? Yes No *If yes, please explain. If you are unsure, please see the Title IV-E Coordinator:	
In addition to English, I speak/write/read the following languages:	
I agree to the following stipulations of the child welfare stipend process:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment by department of social work faculty members using a rubric developed from the State of CO child welfare competencies and general character criteria; • Face-to-face interview by a committee made up of department of social work faculty members, State of CO child welfare stipend personnel, and current child welfare practitioners and/or agency directors; • Work in a child welfare setting in state agencies for at least one year if I receive a child welfare stipend <u>OR I must repay all stipend monies received;</u> • Keep department of social work informed of my current contact information, before and after graduation with my BSW degree; • Security clearances as required by the agency and/or State of Colorado; 	
I have attached my essay required in this application: Yes No	
Signature:	Date:

CHILD WELFARE ESSAY

Watch the video, [Colorado Realistic Social Caseworker Job Preview](#) from the Colorado Child Welfare Training System (published on July 12, 2017) on YouTube (and also available on the Social Work Department webpage under the Title IV-E Program), then write a 2 page paper addressing the questions below. You must use all APA style, 6th edition formatting requirements, including 12 point font, Times New Roman, 1” margin on all sides, and number your pages. If you use outside sources, you must use in-text citations and provide a Reference page, according to APA style, 6th edition.

1. Explain your general reaction to the video and why you are interested in child welfare.
2. What skills do you think are essential for a child welfare worker?
3. Describe what makes you a strong candidate to work in child welfare as a caseworker.

Answer the following questions below:

1. What volunteer and/or paid experiences do you have in the field of child welfare?
2. Please describe how you handle job stress and balancing intense work demands, emergencies, and completing tasks.
3. What experience and skills do you have in working with diverse populations, which and include but is not limited to: LGBTQ, socio-economic status, race, religion, etc.?
4. What other information would you like the stipend committee to consider in reviewing your application?