

**The Title IV-E Child Welfare Partnership (CWP) Program:**

**Current Child Welfare Employees**

*Advancing the Child Welfare Workforce in Texas*

*\*\*Funding slots for this program are limited. If you are applying to the MSW program at Texas State University and you are planning to apply to receive Title IV-E funding,* ***please let the Title IV-E Child Welfare Partnership Team know of your intent to apply no later than March 15th****\*\**

**What is the Title IV-E Child Welfare Partnership (CWP) Program for Child Protective Services (CPS) and Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC) employees?**

* The Title IV-E CWP program is a great opportunity for CPS/SSCC caseworkers who enjoy working at CPS/SSCC and want to enhance their casework skills through the completion of a fully accredited MSW program offered online through the School of Social Work at Texas State University.

**How does it work?**

* If you qualify and are accepted into the program, you will continue working in your current CPS/SSCC caseworker position full-time, while attending the online MSW program at Texas State University part-time. Students in the program take 2 online courses per semester. With this program, 100% of the courses will be offered online.
* If accepted to the program, the Title IV-E stipend will cover tuition and course-related fees for each semester you are enrolled at Texas State. Upon graduation with your MSW degree, you are obligated by contract to continue working for CPS/SSCC in a Title IV-E eligible position for a comparable length of time that you received financial assistance (four months for every semester you received the stipend).

**The MSW program at Texas State University:**

The MSW program at Texas State University offers two different tracks:

* The **Foundation/Regular** **track** is for students who do not hold a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from an accredited program but instead have a bachelor’s degree in another field of study. The Foundation Track is 62 credit hours.
* The **Advanced Standing track** is for graduates of a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)-accredited BSW program with a BSW obtained within the last 10 years. The Advanced Standing Track is 36 credit hours.

**What are the entrance requirements for the MSW Program at Texas State University?**

* The MSW program at Texas State currently admits students one time a year, every August, for a Fall semester start. The Priority Deadline for application submissions is January 15th, with a Standard Deadline of March 15th.
* Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited University.
* You can have a BA or BS in any field, but you need to have at least a 2.9 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework.
* The GRE is not required.
* All applicants must participate in an interview as a part of the application process.

**How do I apply to the MSW program?**

* The application process is entirely online, and you can find information about the process at <http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/>. Additional information about the program and application requirements can be found at: <http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/applied-arts/social-work/social-work-online-regular-msw/#admissionstext>
* There are two applications required – the Graduate College Application and the Departmental Application.
* Please be sure to complete ALL of the application steps by the application due date to be considered for the MSW program.
* For specific questions about the MSW program and admissions process at Texas State, please email:mswprogram@txstate.edu.

**Who is eligible to receive the Title IV-E stipend at Texas State University?**

* This program is available to *current* CPS/SSCC employees in Regions 1, 2, 7, 8, and 9 in Texas.
* CPS/SSCC employees must be employed by the agency for at least one year, and must be in a Title IV-E position (includes CVS, FAD, Kinship, Local Permanency Specialists, CPU, FGDM, PAL, RTC Coordinator, Youth, Disability, and Education Specialists) at the time of application to be eligible for the stipend program.
* The employee must first be accepted to the MSW program at Texas State University, and then apply with regional CPS/SSCC administration to receive the stipend.
* While Texas State makes the decision about who is accepted to participate in the MSW program, the agency (CPS/SSCC) makes the final decision about who is approved to receive the stipend.
* The CPS/SSCC application process may differ from region to region, but generally will require Supervisor, Program Director, Program Administrator, and Regional Director Approval. The Regional Operations Support Administrator (ROSA) in each Region will assist with the application process.
* If approved, the employee will continue to work full-time in a Title IV-E position at CPS/SSCC, and go to school part-time. The stipend will pay for tuition and course-related fees. After graduation, the employee is obligated by contract to continue working at CPS/SSCC in a Title IV-E position for approximately the same amount of time it took the employee to complete the MSW program, as documented in the official Title IV-E contract.
* **Funding slots for this program are limited. If you are applying to the MSW program at Texas State University and you are planning to apply with regional CPS/SSCC administration to receive Title IV-E funding, please let the Child Welfare Partnership Team know no later than March 15th so that we can plan accordingly.**

**I’m interested! Who should I contact?**

* If you are interested in learning more about the program or applying to the program, please contact Martha Wildberger, the Director of the program, at mw38@txstate.edu.

*The mission of the Title IV-E Child Welfare Partnership (CWP) is to enhance the values, knowledge, and skills of the child welfare workforce in Texas through social work education, financial assistance, ongoing training, and career support.*

<https://www.socialwork.txstate.edu/students/Stipends/Title-IV-E-Child-Welfare-Partnership.html>