EMPOWER MSWs Program
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students Program
Funded by the Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA)
Grant Award: T08HP39327
OVERALL GOALS

Increase number of graduates practicing clinical social work in primary care and in or with medically underserved communities

Increase recruitment and retention of students from educationally, environmentally, and economically disadvantaged backgrounds
01

Recruit and retain MSW students who are from educationally, environmentally, and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

02

Increase enrollment and retention of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities, first generation students, Native American students, and men from racial minorities.

03

Increase number of disadvantaged student graduates who work in primary care settings or in community mental health located in or serving medically underserved communities.
ELIGIBILITY

▪ Admitted to the UNCP MSW Program

▪ Maintain full-time enrollment (9 credit hours or more is full-time in graduate school)

▪ From a disadvantaged background (meet definition of environmentally/educationally disadvantaged OR economically disadvantaged)

▪ Demonstrated financial need (based on FASFA)

▪ Commitment to:
  ▪ working in primary care, mental health, substance use disorder treatment or other healthcare setting in or with a medically underserved community (defined on slide 8)
  ▪ obtaining LCSWA through the NCSWCLB after graduation
  ▪ obtaining National Provider Identification (NPI) number after graduation
  ▪ completing approximately 20 hours of workshops per year
Educationally/Environmentally Disadvantaged is defined as at least two of the following:

1) student graduated from (or last attended) a high school with low per capita funding and where most of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches; https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src

2) student is a first-generation college student;

3) student identifies as Native American (NA), African American (AA), Hispanic (H), Asian American, or multiracial (M).
Economically Disadvantaged is defined by the Federal Register dated February 12, 2019. To be considered economically disadvantaged, family/household income must not exceed the numbers listed on the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons in family/household</th>
<th>Income Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$24,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$33,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$42,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$51,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$60,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$69,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$78,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$86,860</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For families with more than 8 persons, add $8,840 for each additional person.
Financial Need and Medically Underserved Community

DEFINITIONS

**Financial Need** is determined as follows:
UNCP MSW program cost of attendance ($18,779) minus (-) FAFSA EFC
(expected family contribution) = financial need

**Medically Underserved Community** (MUC) is a geographic location or population of individuals eligible for designation by the federal government as a Health Professional Shortage Area, Medically Underserved Area, Medically Underserved Population, or Governor’s Certified Shortage Area for Rural Health Clinic purposes. As an umbrella term, MUC also includes populations such as homeless individuals, migrant or seasonal workers, and residents of public housing. Locate: [https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/mua-find](https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/mua-find)
EMPOWER MSWs SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- Up to $16,901 in scholarship funds per academic year based on FAFSA EFC (expected family contribution), total financial aid package, and number of qualified applicants.

- EFC minus (-) cost of attendance = financial need minus (-) other scholarships/grants = max amount of EMPOWER MSWs scholarship.

- Reduces max graduate school federal loan amount ($20,500) available by the amount of the scholarship awarded (i.e., if awarded $10,500 in scholarship funds loan offer will be $10,000).

- Scholarship award divided into three payments for AS and two payments for traditional.

- Tuition, fees, and student insurance (if not waived) will be paid first, and the balance will be refunded to student be used for other educational/living expenses.

- Must complete all MSW program requirements and commit to requirements listed on slide 4.
APPLICATION

Submit application online - https://forms.gle/JQRmrZNjQ2Rsoc5t5

Required Attachment:
One page statement double-spaced statement in PDF format that explains 1) why you believe you should be awarded the EMPOWER MSWs scholarship; 2) what your career goals are following graduation with your MSW degree and; 3) where you plan to reside following graduation.
Applications received after the due date and time will not be considered (no exceptions for technical issues unless the online application is not working properly)

Advanced Standing Students – Applications Due May 14, 2021 by 11:59pm
Traditional Program Students – Applications Due July 30, 2021 by 11:59pm

▪ Applications will be reviewed by a panel of social work faculty.
▪ Award amounts for qualified applicants will be based on financial need and the total number of qualified applicants.
▪ Notification of award will be made via Bravemail by 5/21/2021 for advanced standing students and 8/6/2021 for traditional program students.
Contact about Scholarship Application
EMPOWER MSWs Program Director
Dr. Cindy E. Locklear, LCSW

contact@university.edu

Contact about MSW Program Application
MSW Program Director
Dr. Summer Woodside, LCSW

contact@university.edu