

**Child Welfare
Professional Development Project**

**TITLE IV-E
STIPENDS**

Are you interested in a challenging and rewarding career serving families and children?

CWPDP provides BSW students an educational opportunity and financial assistance for those who desire a career in Child Protective Services.

BSW STIPENDS

**BSW Students receive
\$3,000**

in Senior Field

(stipends are contingent upon availability of funds)

Qualifications

- Applicants must be approved for Field III
- Applicants must have a SWK GPA 3.0 or more
- Applicants must be eligible for employment at TDFPS
- Applicants must complete a criminal background and driving record check
- Applicants are chosen by CPS

The Child Welfare Professional Development Project (CWPDP) receives federal funds (Title IV-E, Social Security Act) from the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services (TDFPS) to prepare undergraduate and graduate social work students for careers in the field of child protection.

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FAQs

Child Welfare Professional Development Project Title IV-E Stipends

How do I apply?

In the semester before Senior Field, you will be given an opportunity to complete a Title IV-E stipend application. Students are evaluated on SWK GPA, participation in social work classes and commitment to social work values/ethics. CPS Stipend Committee members review the application, conduct the interview, and award the stipends. **The interview serves as the official hiring interview** typically conducted immediately prior to hiring!

How will the stipend award affect my financial aid package?

It is **important** to contact the SFA Financial Aid Office beforehand to determine if there will be changes in the amount of financial aid you will receive if awarded the Title IV-E stipend. Changes vary from student to student.

What are the field requirements?

If awarded a stipend, the Senior Field placement must be with Child Protective Services (Texas Department of Family and Protective Services). Both field requirements and contractual obligations must be met throughout the semester to receive monthly stipend disbursements. The first stipend disbursement is made on the thirteenth class day of the semester. Upon graduation, stipend students are eligible for immediate employment with CPS.

What is my contractual work obligation?

Stipend recipients have a contractual obligation to work for CPS for 8 MONTHS in a Title IV-E position. Examples of these positions include Family Based Safety Services, Conservatorship, Foster/Adoption, generally, positions other than investigations and kinship care. Students are obligated to submit an employment application two months before graduating. If no positions are available in the student's "preferred" region, the student must apply for positions elsewhere in Texas. Stipend recipients must accept any Title IV-E position offered statewide within 60 days of graduation.

What if I want to go to graduate school?

Employment with CPS may NOT be deferred. However, CPS encourages employees to return to school part-time to obtain their MSW degree. Those who enter employment with Child Protective Services may be eligible for an employee stipend after completing the length of employment requirement and upon CPS administrative approval.