



Application

Application to be a stipend recipient is open to admitted students in the Minnesota State University, Mankato Master of Social Work Program and is only open to students advancing into the specialization year field practicum.

Practicum Sites

Selected initiative students work with the Master of Social Work Director of Field Education during the fall semester to identify an appropriate practicum site for the specialization year field placement. While there are a number of initiative partner agencies, the Field Education program works closely with the students to find a placement that is an ideal fit.

The Southern Minnesota Behavioral Health Initiative is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration.

To find out more:

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**MINNESOTA STATE
UNIVERSITY, MANKATO**

**DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL WORK**



MINNESOTA STATE

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**MINNESOTA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
MANKATO



MASTER OF
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Southern Minnesota
Behavioral Health
Initiative

At a glance



Department of
Social Work

COLLEGE OF
ALLIED HEALTH & NURSING

Goals

- > To prepare MSW-level students for advanced clinical social work practice in rural behavioral healthcare settings with particular attention to practice in integrated care settings.
- > To enhance the behavioral health workforce in Southern Minnesota.
- > To assist students financially so that they can focus on their education.

Basics

- > Four-year grant (2021-2025) from SAMHSA/BHWET-\$132,782/year
- > Open to students in specialization year of MSW program
- > Selected students commit to:
 - 1) a clinical practicum focusing on integrated behavioral health care;
 - 2) completing an elective course with clinical content that complements their preparation for social work practice;
 - 3) participate in all aspects of the initiative; and
 - 4) after graduation, explore career options in clinical practice in Southern Minnesota or other geographically underserved areas.



Initiative Elements

Student Stipend

Provides eight students each year with a stipend of \$10,000 during their specialization year practicum. The practicum must focus on clinical social work practice in rural/underserved communities, with a focus on integrated behavioral health care in primary care settings.

Enhanced Curriculum

Stipend recipients will complete an elective course on clinical social work practice. Elective courses are offered throughout the academic year.

Trainings for Stipend Recipients

Stipend recipients will attend a workshop that is principally designed to build intervention skills in primary behavioral health. In addition, each student will complete a certificate course in telemental health and will have a budget to attend conferences, trainings, or workshops that meet their individual interests and goals.

Training for Practicum Agencies

The grant provides training for practicum agency partners on social work practice

in integrated behavioral healthcare settings and field instructors have access to financial resources to support their professional development.

Workforce Enhancement

A focus of the grant is to enhance the knowledge and skills of the existing behavioral health workforce in Southern Minnesota. The Initiative will do this in several ways. First, the Initiative will deliver an annual workshop or training directed towards the stipend recipients, other graduate social work students, and other graduate students from other allied health professions. Second, the Initiative will sponsor up to three agency-wide trainings for agencies serving as practicum sites. The agency-wide trainings will emphasize key areas of the grant, including evidence-based integrated behavioral health care; trauma-informed care; evidence-based modalities for working with children, adolescents, and transitional-age youth; evidence-based modalities for telehealth services; evidence-based modalities for co-morbid mental health and substance use disorders; and other appropriate topics that fit with the intent of the grant.