Dear Student:

Thank you for your interest in the Investing in the Future of Public Behavioral Health in Georgia stipend program. This program provides additional training and a financial stipend for students committed to working in public behavioral health in Georgia. Please review the program description and application process below.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Kate Morrissey Stahl at kstahl@uga.edu. Program selection will be based upon goodness of fit with the program goal to increase the number of social work professionals who have the knowledge, skills, ability, and commitment to practice within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) or Community Service Boards (CSB). You must demonstrate an understanding of the mission of DBHDD, the program requirements, and have a willingness to learn about these topics.

**DBHDD commitments:**

* Selected students will have their specialization year field placement at either a DBHDD or CSB agency. Placement will be coordinated with the field office following selection into the program.
* Students will enroll in a 1 credit per semester field seminar in both Fall and Spring semester that explores topics of relevance to work in the DBHDD/CSB system
* Within 120 days of graduation, students will apply for their LMSW
* Within 90 days of graduation, students will obtain employment at a DBHDD/CSB and commit to working for 12 months
* Selected students will respond to post-graduation surveys from the SSW
* Failure to adhere to the program commitments will result in stipend payback

**DBHDD stipend awards**

DBHDD will provide a $10,000 stipend ($5,000 per semester) to selected specialization year MSW students committed to a career at DBHDD and/or CSBs. The stipend will be processed through the Office of Financial Aid.

**Eligibility**

* Students are not able to receive more than one source of funding from the School of Social Work. By accepting the DBHDD stipend, you will not be eligible for funding including SDS, HRSA Fellowship, Title IV-E, or a Graduate Assistantship.
* Students must be US Citizens
* Students must be able to pass a background check

**Application Process**

* Students will send the completed application with a current resume to Dr. Kate Morrissey Stahl kstahl@uga.edu no later than 1/19/24. Please use the subject line, “DBHDD application.” As soon as all applications are collected and reviewed, applicants will be contacted.
* Selected applicants will be scheduled for an online panel interview 2/2/2024.
* Students will be informed of their status no later than 3/1/24.

Application for Investing in the Future of the Behavioral Health Workforce Stipend Program for 2024-2025

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Student ID number: |  |
| Current Placement: |  |
| Current GPA: |  |

**Please attach a narrative in which you address the following questions:**

Question #1: Why you are interested in applying for this initiative?

Question #2: What are you doing at your current placement? (Population, locations, duties, and skills you have developed, etc.)

Question #3: What is your specific interest in public behavioral health?

Question #4: What are your long-range career goals in public behavioral health?