

The Child Welfare Education Project (CWEP) prepares master's level social work students for the challenging and rewarding work found in Children's Protective Services by providing:

- Financial Assistance for costs associated with the MSW degree
- Excellent child welfare-oriented classes and field internships designed for your professional development
- Special seminars and workshops focused on child welfare issues to enhance your educational experience
- Staff assistance to give you focused advising and field internship support
- Employment in Children's Protective Services after graduation with rewarding opportunities to improve the lives of children and families

**Stipends:** Full-time students receive a stipend of \$5,000 a semester for up to five semesters. Part-time students receive \$6,000 for the first semester and \$4,000 the following semesters for up to eleven semesters. Full-time advanced standing students who have completed CPS required education receive a stipend of \$5,000 a semester for up to five semesters. Part-time advanced standing students receive \$6,000 for the first semester and \$4,000 for the following semesters for up to 6 semesters. Please be prepared to pay the first tuition payment yourself, as the stipend process may be delayed due to unpredictable factors.

**Payback:** The project requires "payback" through professional social work employment in Children's Protective Services (CPS). Each semester the student receives a stipend that will require eight months of employment at CPS upon MSW graduation. Current CPS employees who attend on a part-time basis will pay back **four months** for each semester that a stipend is received.

**Admissions Process:** Applicants must be accepted into the MSW program and be eligible for employment by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Applicants must complete pre-employment screening and criminal background, driving record, and abuse and neglect checks. In some stipend positions, applicants must be working in a Title IV-E eligible position for at least one year. Stipend recipients are chosen by a committee composed of GCSW and CPS representatives.

**Additional Requirements:** CWEP students may occasionally be expected to attend special seminars, brown-bag meetings and workshops designed especially for this program. CWEP staff will make every attempt to schedule these program activities based on students' preferences.

**Contact Information:** Dr. Renita Laury, CWEP Director, [rllaury@central.uh.edu](mailto:rllaury@central.uh.edu) 713-743-5652.