Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program Requirements

BSW Field Placements

Title IV-E students are required to follow all Augusta University BSW Program policies and procedures outlined in the BSW Student Handbook and Field Placement Manual.

Title IV-E students are required to complete their field placement at the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) in a social services position DFCS. This practicum is to be “in a DFCS office working in direct child welfare service provision.”

- BSW students complete their field placement at DFCS in their senior year.

Applying for Field

All students in the Title IV-E program are required to submit their Field Placement Applications to Dr. Dale White, Field Education Director by the due date specified. Title IV-E student MUST indicate that they are Title IVE students on their application so that a DFCS placement can be arranged.

Additional DFCS Required Activities

In addition to the BSW Program field placement requirements, all Title IV-E students must also complete the following within one month of graduation:

- Online KEYS Training.
- Activities in the Training and Field Practice Guide.

DFCS Employment Obligations

All Title IV-E students are required to give one year of service in a GA DFCS office for every academic year of Title IV-E Funding. DFCS employees are required to remain in DFCS for one year of additional service for every academic year of Title IV-E funding.

Employment Searches

Students are required to seek and obtain employment at a DFCS office following graduation. They must be ready for employment 30 Days after graduation and officially hired in a DFCS office within 60 days following graduation.

*Three months prior to graduation: Non-DFCS students and students employed by DFCS in non-child welfare positions are required to submit the names of their 3 preferred DFCS counties for employment. Attempts will be made to match students with existing vacancies in their preferred counties. However, as indicated in the Student Agreement, if no vacancies are identified in preferred counties within 30 days of graduation, students will be placed in counties with the greatest need (anywhere in the state of Georgia). Students who refuse to accept available employment (i.e. they do not like the location) violates the Student Agreement and renders the student liable for the full amount of funds received throughout the program.
Title IV-E Funding Payback

All students accepted into the Title IV-E program must successfully complete the program (including the completion of their employment obligation to DFCS following graduation) or they are required to payback all monies drawn from the program as specified in their Student Agreement. Examples include:

- Early withdrawal from the program.
- Early termination from the program due to academic or non-academic reasons.
- Failure to successfully complete required coursework.
- Failure to successfully complete required DFCS Field Practice Training and Activities (See field practice guide).
- Failure to secure employment with Georgia DFCS as a result of lack of effort on the part of the grant recipient.
- Failure to accept available employment opportunities upon graduation.

Criminal Record Clearances & Drug Screening

In order to ensure students will meet hiring requirements of DFCS once they graduate, all students accepted into the Title IV-E program must agree to participate and successfully complete the following clearances upon entry into the Title IV-E program and again upon DFCS employment:

- DFCS Criminal Background Check
- Fingerprinting (Live-scan)
- Drug Screening

Previous DFCS Social Services Involvement

Students are required to disclose any previous history with DFCS Social Services (see Student Agreement). If students have a previous history with DFCS that is deemed to disqualify them from DFCS employment, they will be ineligible for the Title IV-E program and required to payback any funds expended in accordance with the program.

Release(s) of Information

Since the Title IV-E program is a collaborative partnership between the BSW Program at Augusta University and GA DFCS, all students participating in the Title IV-E program must agree to sign releases of information for Augusta University and DFCS to communicate as necessary. Necessary communication may include (but is not limited to) discussing personal and professional issues that are impeding a student’s performance in the educational setting and/or DFCS workplace or issues surrounding professional ethics and conduct.