



Announcing the Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund Scholarship for Students in Social Work

Are you passionate about social work in healthcare? Do you come from a rural area or identify as a member of an underrepresented minority group? The **Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund Scholarship** is here to help you achieve your career goals in healthcare social work!

We are excited to announce that applications are now open for the **Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund Scholarship**. This scholarship is designed to support Social Work (MSW and BSW) students who are committed to making a difference in healthcare, especially in rural Kentucky communities. Whether you are passionate about addressing healthcare disparities, advocating for vulnerable populations, or enhancing access to care, this scholarship can help you on your journey.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a current BSW or MSW student.
- Priority will be given to applicants who:
 - Identify as a member of an underrepresented minority group.
 - Come from a rural area or their hometown is in a county or surrounding counties of the healthcare organization.
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
- Demonstrate a commitment to pursuing a career in healthcare social work in rural Kentucky.

Required Application Materials:

1. **Academic Transcript**
2. **Letters of Recommendation** (Two letters from professors, mentors, or professionals who can speak to your dedication, character, and potential in social work)
3. **Resume** (Detailing your educational background, work experience, volunteer activities, and extracurricular involvement)

4. **Personal Statement** (500-700 words explaining your background, experiences growing up in a rural area or as an underrepresented minority, and how these have shaped your passion for social work in healthcare)

How to Apply:

Complete your application and submit all required materials to swrk@wku.edu.

This scholarship offers **tuition expenses for up to 2 years** and is intended to help alleviate the financial burden of your BSW or MSW studies while supporting your career aspirations in healthcare social work.

If you are dedicated to improving the healthcare system in rural Kentucky, we encourage you to apply for this incredible opportunity!

For more information, please contact Dr. Erin Warfel at 270-745-8923 or erin.warfel@wku.edu

We look forward to reviewing your application and supporting the next generation of social work leaders!

Now taking applications for

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS IN SOCIAL WORK

The Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund was established by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2003. A core objective of this fund is to provide educational scholarships through partnerships between healthcare programs and healthcare providers to students pursuing programs targeting critical workforce needs in healthcare professions.

The awards will be considered full tuition awards. Applicants must be residents of Kentucky and are encouraged to complete a FAFSA.

Each recipient of a scholarship shall:

- Agree in the written contract to practice as a licensed or certified social work professional in the Commonwealth for a contract period of one (1) year for each academic year funded by the scholarship up to a maximum of two (2) total years.
- Sign a promissory note as evidence of the scholarship and the authority to recoup all the scholarship amount awarded to the individual upon failure to complete the terms of the contract.

Scholarship Award Requirements

- Academic transcript: Provide an official or unofficial copy of your current academic transcript.
- Letters of Recommendation: Submit two letters of recommendation from professors, mentors, or professionals in the field who can speak to your dedication, character, and potential in the social work profession.
- Resume: Provide a current resume detailing your educational background, work experience, volunteer activities, and any relevant extracurricular involvement.
- Signed acknowledgment: Applicants will read and understand the scholarship program guidelines and post-graduation employment expectations and provide acknowledgment of this.
- Personal Statement responding to the following prompt in 500-700 words: Discuss your background, highlighting any experiences growing up in a rural area or as a member of an underrepresented minority group. Discuss how these experiences have ignited your passion to become a professional social worker. Explain your career goals and how this scholarship will help you achieve them.

Selection Criteria

- Must be an undergraduate student majoring in the BSW degree or a graduate student in the MSW program at Western Kentucky University
- Priority will be given to those who identify as a member of an underrepresented minority group and/or come from a rural area and/or are residents of a county or surrounding county where the partner healthcare organization is located
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- Demonstrate a commitment to pursuing a career in social work in rural Kentucky

The application, transcript, letters of recommendation, resume, and personal statement should be submitted in one document to swrk@wku.edu.

Healthcare Training Scholarship Application

Instructions: Please complete the application and email to swrk@wku.edu with your academic transcript, two letters of recommendation, resume, and personal statement.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:		Kentucky Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
WKU ID Number:		Phone:	
Local address:			
Mailing address: (if different than above)			
City:		State:	ZIP Code:
E-Mail Address:			
Major:		Minor:	
Overall GPA (minimum 3.25):		Earned Credit Hours	

Each recipient of a scholarship shall:

1. Agree in the written contract to practice as a licensed or certified social work professional in the Commonwealth for a contract period of one (1) year for each academic year funded by the scholarship up to a maximum of two (2) total years.
2. Sign a promissory note as evidence of the scholarship and the authority to recoup all the scholarship amount awarded to the individual upon failure to complete terms of the contract.

SIGNATURE of Applicant:

Date:

By signing I authorize the verification of the information provided on this form.

Indicate your work preference after graduation by ranking the participating healthcare partners:

Baptist Health Hardin (MSW only) _____

Graves Gilbert Clinic (MSW only) _____

LifeSkills, Inc. (BSW & MSW) _____

TJ Samson Regional Health (MSW only) _____

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO swrk@wku.edu