

## **Mountain State Partnership Program (MS-PP) Application**

The WVU Division of Social Work and its agency partners are pleased to announce our selection as one of 21 schools in 2008 to receive a Partnership Program for Aging Education grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation. The program will recruit and train MSW students to engage in customized rotational field placements and specialized coursework and seminars that build competencies and leadership skills in geriatric social work in small towns and rural areas. In addition to this excellent training, students will receive a tuition waiver for an elective in aging.

### **Advantages to participation in the MS-PP program include the following:**

- A rotational advanced field placement will allow the student to gain an understanding of the depth and breadth of aging services offered in West Virginia.
- The opportunity to learn from various members of the community who are experienced in the aging field.
- Enrollment in seminars and coursework that focus specifically on aging.
- The development of knowledge and leadership skills in the aging and healthcare field.
- A monthly stipend and tuition waver for the Summer Institute on Aging course.
- State and national networking opportunities with professionals and students involved in the program.

### **Criteria for selection in the MS-PP program include:**

- Full or part-time, regular or advanced standing MSW student in the Direct Practice or COSA track.
- Successful completion of Foundation coursework and field placement.
- Good academic standing and proven ability to work well with clients, colleagues, and instructors.
- Interest in geriatric social work in small towns and rural areas.
- Potential to provide leadership in the field
- Reliable transportation and willingness to travel at least one day per week to a rural area.
- No criminal history or problems obtaining clearances.
- A commitment to participate in/complete:
  - an advanced rotational field placement in our partner agencies
  - an online MS-PP field seminar in addition to a regular field seminar
  - SOWK 693: Contemporary Issues in Aging/Summer Institute on Aging
  - GERO 691: Introduction to Gerontology
  - MS-PP program evaluation activities

Applications for the program are due **Friday, February 18, 2010**. Students will be chosen from the Morgantown, Martinsburg, and Charleston/Beckley MSW Programs.

Questions? Contact Kristina Hash at 304-293-8807 or [kmhash@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:kmhash@mail.wvu.edu). For more information about the national Partnership Program for Aging Education, go to:

<http://www.socialworkleadership.org/nsw/ppp/about.php>

WVU Division of Social Work  
**Mountain State Partnership Program**

Return completed application **and one copy of your resume** to: Kristina Hash, Assistant Professor, WVU Division of Social Work, B-17 Knapp Hall, PO Box 6830, Morgantown, WV 26506.  
**Application deadline is Friday, February 18, 2010** for students starting their advanced field year in Summer/Fall 2010. The application process is competitive.

*Please type or print information clearly*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ WVU ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Current** Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent** Mailing Address (if different from above):

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

MIX Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your current student status (circle all that apply):

Full-time	Regular standing	Direct Practice track
Part-time	Advance standing	COSA track

Campus (circle one): Beckley      Charleston      Morgantown      Wheeling

When will you be ready to start the advanced field placement?      Month/Year \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Program? \_\_\_\_\_

List any volunteer, employment, and personal experiences related to working with older adults and their family members (you may attach another piece of paper if necessary):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

List any academic courses or training that you have completed or are enrolled in that would be relevant to working with older adults and their family members:

---

---

---

---

---

Do you have reliable transportation and are you willing to travel at least one day per week to a rural area? Yes No Explain:

---

---

---

If applicable, please list specific agencies or types of agencies (hospital, skilled nursing facility, etc) in which you are interested in being a field student:

---

---

---

Are there clearance, criminal record, or employment issues that may impact your ability to participate in this program (circle one)? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

---

---

---

---

Please briefly address the following questions on a separate page (one paragraph per question, typed)

1. What are your career goals? Where do you see yourself 5 years from now?
2. Why are you interested in working with older persons?
3. Discuss the attitudes, experiences, and skills that you will bring to this project.
4. Discuss your interest in working with older adults and their families in small towns and rural areas.
5. Discuss your motivation and potential for becoming a leader in the field of geriatric social work

***Please provide us with the name of your first year/foundation field instructor, BSW field instructor or other social work supervisor as a reference.\*\****

_____	_____	_____
Name	Position/Agency	Phone Number

**Statement of Understanding:** If I am offered a spot to participate in the MS-PP and choose to take it, I agree to commit to the program for the remainder of my MSW studies, to take specified courses, to accept field placements at partner agencies, to participate in the student seminars, and to complete program evaluations.

PLEASE NOTE: This Partnership Program requires that you complete field work at facilities external to the University, and that such facilities will or may require a criminal background check and perhaps a drug screen to determine whether you are qualified to participate in the field experience. If you are unable to meet these criteria, we cannot accept you into this program.

**Permission to Contact References:** Your signature here allows us to contact your references, access your student file and/or faculty and share information about your background with project staff and potential field instructors with Partnership Program.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_