

Child Welfare University Partnership Program Information

BSW seniors and MSW candidates must fill out an application within 60 days prior to starting their field placement and interview with the UPP Campus Coordinator to be admitted to the UPP. Once accepted, students are required to take two specialized, standardized child welfare elective courses and complete a one-year internship at an Ohio Public Children Services Agency (PCSA). **UPP graduates receive up to a \$5,000 stipend** per year of UPP participation, with a two-year maximum, provided they **secure full-time employment in direct services at an Ohio PCSA within 180 days of graduation.**

Students should plan their academic schedule accordingly to be able to complete the two child welfare elective classes prior to graduation. Things to consider:

- The two child welfare elective courses are currently only offered during the fall and spring semesters in distance learning format. You must complete both before graduation to be considered for the program.
- The electives can also be included in the electives needed for graduation.
- The courses do not need to be taken consecutively.
- If you are considering conducting your field practicum experience in public child welfare practice in the following counties, first fill out the UPP application and schedule an interview with the UPP Campus Coordinator: ***Ashland, Carroll, Geauga, Medina, Richland, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, or Wayne.***

Potential Waiver of Caseworker Core Training for UPP Graduates: Completion of required social work courses, along with completion of the UPP's two required child welfare courses and one-year internship have been deemed by the UPP planning committee to provide the equivalent to all the competencies covered in Caseworker Core training, with the exception of the Legal Aspects Core Module. Some UPP students take the Legal Aspects Module through an Ohio Child Welfare Training Program (OCWTP) Regional Training Center (RTC) before graduation. Those that do not must complete the Legal Aspects Module within their first year of PCSA employment. Based on this, Ohio House Bill 95 stipulates that PCSA directors have the option to waive Caseworker Core training requirements for newly hired UPP graduates, provided they have already taken the Legal Aspects Module or will take it within their first year.