

Do you want to be...

- considered among the best-trained and best-educated child welfare workers in the nation?
- a competent, satisfied career professional who continues to be enthusiastic, creative and respected for your work?
- working in a supportive agency with excellent supervision that provides personal rewards and incentives that focus on the career line social worker?
- an advocate empowered to coach and mentor children and families based on best practice standards?

The University Partnership Program may be right for you

The University Partnership Program (UPP) seeks to develop creative child welfare leaders, policy makers, managers and direct service practitioners who are capable of critical thinking and promoting best practices and highest-quality service to children, families and communities. The program accomplishes this by providing coordinated, integrated, and high quality social work education and training.

Key benefits for social work students and professionals

- Specialized education and waiver of core training.
- An array of employment opportunities in child welfare.
- Beneficial networking with child welfare professionals across Ohio.
- Significant financial assistance: \$5,000-\$10,000 in tuition reimbursement.



For more information

University of Akron
SW Department
411 Polsky Building
Akron, OH 44325
330.972.5974
www.uakron.edu/socialwork

University of Cincinnati
School of SW
P.O. Box 210108
1515 French Hall
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0108
513.556.4615
www.uc.edu/socialwork/

Cleveland State University
School of SW
2300 Chester Ave.
Room 302
Cleveland, OH 44114
216.687.4560
www.csuohio.edu/class/socialwork/

The Ohio State University
College of SW
1947 College Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210
614.292.6288
www.csw.ohio-state.edu/

Ohio University
SW Department
522 Morton
Athens, OH 45701
740.593.1292
www.socialwork.ohiou.edu/

University of Toledo
SW Department
2400 Health & Human Services
Toledo, OH 43606
419.530.4397
www.utoledo.edu/hshs/socialwork/

Wright State University
SW Department
270 Millett Hall
Dayton, OH 45435
937.775.2751
www.wright.edu/cola/Dept/social_work

Youngstown State University
Cushwa Hall
One University Plaza
Youngstown, Ohio 44555
330.941.3774
<http://behhs.ysu.edu/dsw/dsw.html>

Title IV-E University Partnership Program

Child Welfare Workforce Professional Education Program



**\$5,000 to \$10,000
STI PEND Available**

**Junior and Senior
Undergraduate
Social Work Majors**

University Partnership Program



Unique and beneficial partnership

The University Partnership is a unique and beneficial partnership among the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), Ohio's public schools of social work (including The University of Akron's School of Social Work), the Institute for Human Services, the Public Child Service Association of Ohio (PCSAO) and Public Children Service Agencies (PCSAs).

Students in bachelor of social work degree programs take special child welfare courses, complete a field placement in a PCSA and receive a stipend after being hired as a PCSA caseworker 180 days after graduation; juniors in UPP must work a minimum of two years and seniors a minimum of one year in a PCSA upon graduation. Students can choose to fulfill the work requirement in any of the 88 county PCSAs throughout Ohio.

Those who complete the program may not have to take the required core training; all other new child welfare workers must complete the first year of employment.

Making a positive difference in public child welfare

"There is a clear advantage in working with a UPP graduate because the student has completed the CORE training needed during the first year of employment in a PCSA: they are more prepared to start the job."

Pam Reid, PCSA supervisor

"Not only does UPP benefit me financially, I am also better equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to work in the profession of child welfare."

Amber McClain, The University of Akron, School of Social Work, UPP student

The purpose of the University Partnership Program (also referred to as CWWPEP) is to positively influence recruitment and retention in public child welfare.

Studies show that social workers who participate in a program such as UPP stay longer and are more satisfied with their employment than those who did not complete such a program.

Significant financial assistance

The University Partnership Program provides financial assistance — \$5,000-\$10,000 in tuition reimbursement — to social work students at selected universities who are interested in pursuing careers in child welfare.

The program now includes seven public universities in Ohio: The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, University of Cincinnati, The Ohio State University, Ohio University, University of Toledo, Wright State University and Youngstown State University.

Application information

Students interested in applying for UPP must fill out an application, interview with the UPP and sign a UPP contract (for seniors 60 days before starting field placement) to be eligible for the program.

