Purpose

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Student Stipend is financial assistance that is provided to students pursuing their MS degree or post-master’s certificate as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). Stipend recipients agree to work as a PMHNP in publicly funded community mental health services in California after graduation. Stipend recipients sign an agreement requiring them to be employed upon graduation in the public mental health system for a period of one calendar year for each academic year they receive a stipend. Graduates who do not meet these terms will be required to pay back the stipend.

Funding for the stipends is provided through the Mental Health Services Act, which was approved by California voters as Proposition 63. This act promotes the development and implementation of client- and family-driven, integrated, culturally competent, and recovery/resiliency-oriented mental health services. More information about the MHSA, including the text of the Act, can be found at MHSA website.

Support

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Student Stipend provides a maximum award of $18,500 for an academic year, which will be received in the form of a fee offset. Awardees will receive stipend payments that are applied to their student fees each quarter. The stipend can be received for only one year.

Eligibility

People who have been accepted to or are currently enrolled in MS or post-master’s certificate tracks preparing graduates for PMHNP roles are eligible to apply for these stipends. The program has funding for 10 stipends per year, and preference will be given to those who:

- Have demonstrated a commitment to working in public mental health;
- Can address the cultural diversity needs of recipients of public mental health, with emphasis on underserved communities;
- Have client and/or family member experience in the public mental health system;
- Will deliver public mental health services that promote wellness, recovery, and resilience; and
- Are currently employed in the public mental health system and provide a statement of support from the agency executive describing plans to employ them after graduation in an appropriate community public mental health position.

Responsibilities

If you are granted a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Student Stipend, you must:

- Sign a binding agreement to maintain employment as a PMHNP in a qualifying public mental health agency for the number of years that you have received stipend support. If this service requirement is not met, recipients are required to pay back stipend funds;
- Continue to provide information on employment status after period of payback service ends; and
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 as well as satisfactory progress in the clinical portion of the program.

Application and Submission

- Download and fill out application from the School of Nursing financial aid webpage.

- Submit a hard copy of the completed application to: PMHNP Student Stipend
  Attn: Deborah Johnson
  Dept. of Community Health Systems, Box 0608
  2 Koret Way, San Francisco, CA 94143
  Or submit by e-mail to Deborah Johnson
  deborah.johnson@ucsf.edu

Any further questions?
Beth Phoenix, RN, PhD (415) 502-4407
beth.phoenix@nursing.ucsf.edu
Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Student Stipend
Application Form
(Please Print or Type)

Section A: Personal Information

1. Full Legal Name

2. Program:
   □ Masters of Science in Nursing  □ Post Masters

3. Current Mailing Address

4. Permanent Mailing Address

5. E-mail

6. Racial/Ethnic Background; please check:
   □ American Indian/Alaskan Native  □ East Indian/Pakistani  □ Pilipino/Filipino
   □ Black/African American  □ Japanese/Japanese American  □ Pacific Islander
   □ Chicano/Mexican American  □ Korean/Korean American  □ Other Asian
   □ Chinese/Chinese American  □ Latino/Other Spanish American  □ White/Caucasian
   □ Other, Please Specify: ______________________________

7. Are you fluent in languages other than English? If so, please note these languages and rate your level of fluency in each.
   4 = Native Speaker  3 = Excellent  2 = Good  1 = Limited ability

Section B: History of experience in public mental health
This can include employment or volunteer work with county mental health services or community-based mental health programs. Both nursing and non-nursing experience may be included. Use additional pages if needed.

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Section C: Statement of career objectives. Describe relevant experience, philosophy of care and professional career objectives relevant to this application. Please refer to eligibility criteria on the information page.

Signature

Date

Print Full Name

Please attach letter of support from qualifying public mental health agency, if applicable. Special consideration will be given to applicants who have secured a promise of employment from a qualifying agency after graduation. Return both pages of this application form by May 25 to:

PMHNP Student Stipend
Attn. Deborah Johnson, Dept. of Community Health Systems, Box 0608
2 Koret Way, N505, San Francisco, CA 94143-0608