

# CO Child Welfare Scholars Consortium 2023-2024 application

## Contact Information

### Contact Info

Preferred First Name: \*

Last Name: \*

Pronouns:

Email Address: \*

Address Line 1: \*

Address Line 2:

City: \*

State: \*

Phone Number:

# Demographic Information

## Core Identities

The following information is being collected to better understand the identities of students who apply to the Scholars program. These questions are optional and this information will not be provided to application reviewers or interview panelists as part of the selection process.

Age as of January 1st, 2023

- Under 18
- 18-24 years old
- 25-34 years old
- 35-44 years old
- 45-54 years old
- Over 55

Do you consider yourself to be (select all that apply):

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say
- Transgender
- Other

Do you consider yourself to be (select all that apply):

- Straight/Heterosexual
- Gay or Lesbian
- Prefer not to say
- Other

Do you consider yourself to be (select all that apply):

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Prefer not to say
- Other

Ethnicity - are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or of Spanish origin (select all that apply):

- Yes, of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or of Spanish origin
- No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or of Spanish origin
- Some other race, ethnicity, or origin
- Prefer not to say
- Other

Are you considered a first-generation college student?

Note: Select *no* if either of your parents or legal guardians have earned a four-year college degree.

- Yes
- No

What is your household income?

- Below \$10K
- \$10K - \$50K
- \$50K - \$100K
- \$100K - \$150K
- Over \$150K

Are you currently or have you ever served as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces?

- Yes, currently serving
- Yes, previously served
- No

## Academic Status

**Please note: Academic information WILL be provided to application reviewers and interview panelists as part of the selection process.**

What University do you plan to attend in the 2023-2024 academic year (select **all** that apply)? \*

- Colorado State University Pueblo (CSU Pueblo)
- Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver)
- University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS)
- University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work (GSSW)
- I am still applying and haven't decided yet (please select the options above where you are applying)
- Other

My status for the 2023-2024 academic year is (select **all** that apply): \*

- BSSW senior year student
- MSW Advanced Standing
- MSW First (Foundation) Year
- MSW Second (Concentration) Year
- Fully online student
- Full-time
- Part-time

Is this your first child welfare scholarship in Colorado?

Select **no** if you previously received a child welfare scholarship/stipend from DU-GSSW, CSU Fort Collins or Pueblo, MSU Denver, or UCCS. \*

- Yes
- No

Are you a current child welfare employee? \*

- Yes
- No

If yes, which county?

How many years have you employed in a child welfare position? \*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10+

Which county(ies) are you interested in interning with? (List all that apply) \*

Are you a U.S. citizen? (*Note: International students completing their degree under a student visa program are not eligible for this scholarship*) \*

- Yes
- No

If not a U.S. citizen, do you have legal status for employment in the United States as per 8 U.S.C. §1324a?

- Yes
- No

Do you have a valid driver's license? \*

- Yes
- No

Owning a vehicle is an employment requirement within most county department of social/human services in Colorado. Do you own a car?

*(Not having a vehicle does not prohibit you from being considered for a scholarship but may impact your internship opportunities in some counties. Owning a vehicle will likely be a requirement for the work payback portion of the scholars program following graduation.)* \*

- Yes
- No

Do you have proof of automobile insurance? \*

- Yes
- No

As per Colorado Department of Human Services rules and regulations (7.000.6 T1) a person's employment is conditional upon a satisfactory criminal background check; and subject to the same grounds for denial or dismissal as outlined in 26-6-104(7), C.R.S. Your internship and future employment fall under this provision.

**Have you ever been convicted of a crime that falls under these categories?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please explain:

List any languages (other than English) in which you are fluent:

How did you hear about the child welfare scholars program? (select all that apply)

- Classmate/Colleague
- Faculty/Field Liaison/University Representative
- County DHS Representative
- CO Department of Human Services Representative
- Website/Social Media/Internet Search
- Other

## Required Documents

### Resume

Please provide a 1-2 page updated resume (including educational & work/volunteer experience). \*

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

### FERPA Release Form

Upload the applicable Child Welfare Scholars Program FERPA Release Form. This form is specific to the university you are applying to/are enrolled at; all forms are found [here](#). \*

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

Please upload a second FERPA release form (only applicable if you applied to more than one university & are still undecided).

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

## Are you a returning scholar?

### Returning Scholar?

Have you ever received a child welfare stipend/scholarship in Colorado? \*

Yes

No

## Short Answer Questions

## Returning Scholars - Short Answer Questions

### **For returning scholars only:**

*Part-Time Scholars: Please select a case scenario that you have not responded to in a previous application.*

**Note:** Your responses will be shared with county DHS staff (e.g. field instructor, task supervisor, internship coordinator, field liaison) in the county where you plan to complete your internship to help support your continued growth and learning next year.

### **CASE SCENARIO 1 - MARY S.**

Reporting Party (RP) is the biological mother, Susan, of child, Jason (15years old). The boy's mother, Susan, alleged that Mary S., the boy's maternal grandmother and legal guardian is physically abusive and intimidating to Jason. Yesterday, September 28th, Mary reportedly punched Jason in the face after telling him to clean his bedroom. This is not the first time Mary has used physical force to intimidate Jason. He is afraid of his grandmother, as she has threatened to shoot him if he ever hits her back. Also, the grandmother goes out of town for days at a time and does not leave Jason any money for food. The last time she left was on Saturday and did not return until Monday. Mary does not make an alternate plan for Jason's care when she travels out of state.

Jason's mother, Susan, says she and her husband gave custody of Jason to Mary when Susan was 17 because they did not have any health insurance. Susan says she went to court and filed a petition to revoke her mother's guardianship, and the next court date is October 26th; however, she has to serve Mary the paperwork first. Susan says her mother is a retired New York State corrections officer and may still have her weapon.

### **CASE SCENARIO 2 - BETTE**

Reporting Party (RP) is the school social worker. Bette was referred to the school social worker because she became absolutely hysterical when the teacher turned the lights down to watch movies. The teacher often has to sit by Bette and comfort her. Bette is in kindergarten. In one instance when the teacher had to sit with her, the teacher thought that she saw a bruise on Bette's cheek. Bette is a very pale child with iridescent white skin. She is so pale that her veins are visible. When RP spoke with Bette, she put her hand to her cheek and put her hair behind her ear. RP saw the imprint of a hand across Bette's cheek. The finger marks are quite visible. The bruising is in various stages of healing yellows, greens and purple. RP also put the hair on the other side of Bette's cheek behind the ear. RP observed the same sort of marks there, but it seemed to be more recent. Bette's ear was very, very purple and blue. The marks of the fingers extended to the side of Bette's head. When RP told the elementary school principal, he refused to report the family because he knew the father who was "a military man" and wouldn't think of anything like that. Besides, he said that Bette was so pale she probably bruised easily.

### **CASE SCENARIO 3 - LILA**

Reporting Party (RP) is the school nurse. Lila is 15 and was referred to the school nurse because of frequent infections, absenteeism, and very provocative behaviors with the male teachers with whom she came into contact. The nurse learned that Lila's mother is divorced, and she has a live-in-boyfriend, Earl. Earl and Lily's mother work opposite shifts. Lila is frequently alone with the Earl, while her mother is working. In the past, Lila has frequently been on prescribed medications for UTIs. She told the school nurse that she was sexually active with her boyfriend, Zach, although the two recently broke up. When the nurse spoke with Lila, Lila appeared very despondent and said she was trying to get a new man fast to fill his place. She wanted an older man---someone who "really knew what he was doing." She denied having any suicidal thoughts. She just said she is really lonely because now the only person she ever talked to outside school was Earl. She doesn't have any friends of her own---only friends of Zach's, who now wanted no part of her. She denies drug usage and alcohol consumption, but she does admit to smoking. She babysits sometimes for the 3 kids who live next door to her.

**Note:** The questions below have limits on the number of words you can use. You may want to develop your answers in a Word document first, edit and do a word count, and then paste your answer onto this form.



Which scenario have you chosen?

- Case scenario 1 - Mary S.
- Case scenario 2 - Bette
- Case scenario 3 - Lila

Using what you learned during your current internship and the position you are in, discuss how you would approach this family.

What would your next/first steps be?

What other gray areas or information about the scenario would you need/want to know to best move forward with working with this family?

(Do not exceed 750 words) \*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 750

Reflect on this year's internship experience and all that you have learned so far. Think about what you feel you still want/need to learn. How would you like to focus your next internship experience to hone your child welfare knowledge and skill?

(Do not exceed 750 words.)

\*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 750

Think about a time when you experienced stress in your child welfare role (internship, job, etc.). Answer the following questions related to this stressful experience.

What did you notice (internally, physically, etc.) about how you reacted?

What did you do to handle or manage those reactions?

What would you have done differently?

What will you do to ensure you are prepared to manage these reactions in the future?

(Do not exceed 750 words) \*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 750

### **New Applicants - Short Answer Questions**

Watch the [Colorado Caseworker Realistic Job Preview](#) video & respond to the following questions.

**Note: The questions below have limits on the number of words you can use. You may want to develop your answers in a Word document first, edit and do a word count, and then paste your answer onto this form.**

Based on the video and your understanding of the day-to-day responsibilities, tell us why you think you are a good fit for child welfare work. Be sure to discuss your knowledge, skills, and experiences that directly connect to child welfare work.

\*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 500

Choose one value/ethical principle from the [NASW Social Work Code of Ethics](#) and discuss how you see it connecting to child welfare goals and practices based on your current knowledge and understanding. \*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 500

There are many difficult or emotionally challenging situations in child welfare. There may be times when this work evokes an emotional response. How will you recognize this and what would you need, both personally and professionally, to continue in this work? \*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 500

Describe a time when you interacted with an individual or family that had a background different from your own (e.g., religion, race, sexual orientation, socio economic status, other beliefs, values, or culture). What did you learn from that experience? \*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 500

Imagine you are a child welfare caseworker. It is 1:00 pm and you have a number of things you must get done. Choose what you would do **first, second and third** and **explain why** you chose that order:

A court report due by 2:00pm that will take at least 50 minutes and is required for a judge to make a critical placement decision for siblings on your caseload.

Return a voice message left by a foster mother saying a foster child on your caseload must be moved from her home "NOW"!

Return a call to a school nurse who has left a message stating a child on your caseload has bruises on her buttocks and legs. The child told the nurse, "Grandma (with whom she had been placed) did it with the fly swatter 'cuz I was bad".

\*

Min words required: 0 |

Max Number of Words: 500

## References

## New Scholar Applicant: Reference Request

FIRST TIME APPLICANTS: Two reference requests are required and should come from someone who is acquainted with your writing skills, personal qualities, and your professional goals. If applicable, they should also be knowledgeable about child welfare. COUNTY EMPLOYEES: One reference request MUST be from your current child welfare supervisor.

Contact's First Name \*

Contact's Last Name \*

Contact's Email \*

Contact's Phone Number

Contact's Title

Contact's Organization

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Contact's Email \*

Contact's Phone Number

Contact's Title

Contact's Organization

## Returning Scholar Reference

One reference is required and should come from your current field instructor or internship coordinator.

Contact's First Name \*

Contact's Last Name \*

Contact's Email \*

Contact's Phone Number

Contact's Title

Contact's Organization