

Rural and Underserved Trainee Stipend Program

APPLICATION QUESTIONS & GUIDE

This document includes general information about the program, answers to frequently asked questions, the program's eligibility criteria, and a copy of the application questions.

It is highly encouraged that the eligibility criteria be reviewed first to ensure the student and their experience fit the program requirements.

Students must meet all three eligibility criteria to apply for the program.

Applications will only be accepted through the official application platform during the dates listed on the application home page. Any documents or other forms of responses to these questions outside of the official platform will not be accepted or considered.

This document is only a copy of the application questions, not the official application.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Stipend Payments

Students accepted into this program will receive a \$15,000 stipend. This stipend will be distributed over the length of the experience through monthly payments.

Student supervisors may be eligible for a \$5,000 stipend once the experience has been completed. Only \$5,000 is allocated per student for their supervision. If a student completes their practicum or internship at multiple locations or has more than one supervisor, the \$5,000 will be distributed between the supervisors accordingly.

When to Apply

Applications for this program will be accepted twice a year during the Fall and Spring terms. Students should apply for this program during the academic term before they are enrolled in their practicum or internship experience.

- For example, students should apply during the Fall 2023 term if they will be enrolled in their practicum or internship course(s) with experiences starting in the Spring 2024 term.
- Students should apply during the Spring 2024 term if they will be enrolled in their practicum or internship course(s) with experiences starting in the Summer or Fall 2024 terms.

The application cycle for the Fall 2023 term will open on September 25, 2023, and close on October 15, 2023. Applications submitted outside this timeframe will not be considered.

Contact Information

Contact BHECN at 402-552-7697 or bhecn@unmc.edu if you have questions about the Rural and Underserved Trainee Stipend Program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I develop a practicum or internship experience for this program?

Students should follow the guidelines from their academic programs when developing their experiences to ensure that the practicum or internship course requirements are met. Before applying, experiences should be confirmed by the student and their academic supervisor or practicum/internship coordinator.

If I am not accepted into the program during the first semester of my experience, can I apply again during another semester after I have already started completing hours?

No. The program is intended to support students at the start of their practicum or internship experiences. This is to help create a cohort of students all at the same stage of their experiences.

What type of site locations are eligible for my practicum or internship experience?

Students can develop experiences at any clinical or other training site that serves rural or underserved populations in Nebraska. Please communicate with your academic supervisor or practicum/internship coordinator to ensure that your training site meets the requirements of your academic program.

What if my practicum or internship spans multiple semesters or courses?

It is common for academic programs to have practicum or internship courses and experiences that last multiple semesters. These experiences are allowed if the total number of hours required by the academic program will be completed consecutively across the semesters.

Application Questions

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1 Confirmed Experience

Question #1: Do you have a confirmed training experience in place in Nebraska?

- **Yes:** If you answer "Yes," you meet the first eligibility criteria.
- **No:** If you answer "No," you are not eligible to apply for the program.

Your academic supervisor or practicum/internship coordinator will need to verify that you have a confirmed experience. They will also need to verify that you are near completion of the academic program and are completing your final practicum or internship experience. You will be prompted in the application to input contact information for your academic supervisor or practicum/internship coordinator if you answer "Yes" to this question. They will then receive an electronic request to verify this information.

2 Populations Served

Question #2: Will you be serving a rural or underserved area for your training experience?

- **Yes:** If you answer "Yes," you meet the second eligibility criteria.
- **No:** If you answer "No," you are not eligible to apply for the program.

If you answer "Yes," you must identify the populations you will serve during your experience from the list below. Please contact your site supervisor if you need clarification on what to select.

- People living in urban areas (50,000 or more people, includes suburbs of major urban areas)
- People living in micropolitan areas (not part of the larger metropolitan area; 10,000 to 49,999 people)
- People living in rural towns (communities with 2,500 to 10,000 people)
- People living in frontier/remote areas (communities with less than 2,500 people and geographically remote)
- HSRA-defined medically underserved area
- HRSA-defined health professional shortage area
- Clients using Medicaid and/or sliding scale fees

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

3 Working in Nebraska

Question #3: Do you plan on working in Nebraska after you graduate?

- **Yes:** If you answer "Yes," you meet the third eligibility criteria.
- **Unsure:** If you answer "Unsure," you meet the third eligibility criteria.
- **No:** If you answer "No," you are not eligible to apply for the program.

If you meet each of the three eligibility criteria listed above, please continue reviewing this document to help you prepare for the rest of the application questions.

PERSONAL & DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



Demographic Information

Question #4: Pronouns

Question #5: What is your race or ethnicity? (Select all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African-American
- Hispanic or Latino(a)
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Another Race or Ethnicity (please specify)
- Prefer not to answer

Question #6: What is your gender identity? (Select all that apply)

- Woman
- Man
- Non-binary
- Gender non-conforming
- Gender fluid
- Another Gender Identity (please specify)
- Prefer not to answer

Question #7: What language(s) are you fluent in? (Select all that apply)

- English
- American Sign Language
- Spanish
- Another Language (please specify)

STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION

Trainee Type

Question #8: What behavioral health program are you enrolled in?

- Bellevue University MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Chadron State College MAE Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Doane MA in Counseling w/a specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Nebraska Wesleyan University Master of Social Work
- UNK MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- UNL MA Counseling Psychology - Community Counseling Track
- UNL MS Marriage & Family Therapy
- UNMC MS Applied Behavior Analysis
- UNO Grace Abbott School of Social Work Master of Social Work
- UNO MS Applied Behavior Analysis
- UNO MS in Counseling with a Concentration in CMHC
- Wayne State College MSE Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Academic Coordinator

Question #9: Please list the contact information for the main academic supervisor or practicum/internship coordinator helping you organize this experience.

- First and Last Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- Institution Title or Position

Supporting Academic Information

Question #10: What is your current cumulative GPA?

Question #11: What is your expected graduation date (month and year)?

Question #12: Please upload a copy of your most recent CV/resume.

Question #13: Please upload a maximum of two letters of recommendation from applicable academic or professional sources describing why you should be selected for this program.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial Assistance

Question #14: Have you or will you receive any other financial support for this training experience?

- Yes
- No

If you answer "Yes," you will also be asked to list or explain the information you are comfortable sharing regarding the additional financial support you will be receiving specific to your experience.

TRAINING EXPERIENCE

Number of Site Locations

Question #15: Will you be training with multiple organizations during your practicum or internship experience?

- Yes
- No

Training Site Information

Question #16: What is the contact information for your organization, and how long will you be training at this location?

- Organization's Name
- Organizational Contact Name
- Organization's Address
- Organization's Phone Number
- What is the approximate start date (month and year) for when you will be conducting your experience with this organization?
- What is the approximate end date (month and year) for when you will be conducting your experience with this organization?
- What is the approximate number of practicum or internship hours you will complete with this organization?

EXPLANATION OF INTEREST

Career Goals

Question #17: What are your career goals, and how will this training experience get you closer to your goals?

- Responses will be limited to a maximum of 500 words.

Background and History

Question #18: What aspect(s) of your background or history provides you with the experience or ability to work with rural or underserved communities?

- Responses will be limited to a maximum of 500 words.

Organization Selection

Question #19: Why did you select this specific organization to conduct your experience?

- Responses will be limited to a maximum of 500 words.

END OF APPLICATION