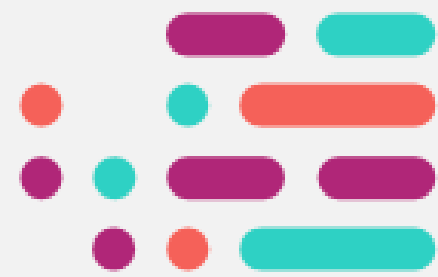


2024 ADMITTED STUDENT PREVIEW DAY



Workforce for Student Well-Being in Washington State

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON-SEATTLE SSW!



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

UW-SEATTLE WSW TEAM



**Sofie Aaron (she/her/hers)
UW SSW WSW Coordinator**



**Rachel Barrett
WSW State Program Manager**



**Buddy Myers ('oia/he/him)
UW SSW WSW Coordinating Staff**

The Washington State Workforce for Student Well-Being (WSW)

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM:

Washington ranks in the lowest tier among states for youth mental health

Over 20% of all K-12 student experience social, emotional and behavioral problems and since 2010 students have reported an increase in 50% of depression/anxiety

Staffing ratios for school social workers in Washington state are 1/50th the recommended level of the National Association of School Social Workers

GOALS:

To help all K-12 Students in Washington State thrive through providing graduate students training, mentorship, and financial support to work in high need public K-12 and Tribal Schools in Washington State



**Workforce for Student
Well-Being in
Washington State**

What does it mean to be a WSW recipient?

- **Complete specialized practicum placement in a high-need school district**
- **Receive up to \$30,000 in financial support based on financial need**
- **Must participate in 30 hours of training (Community of Practice)**
 - **12 hour State Educational Staff Associate (ESA) Certificate**
 - **Be part of an annual WSW conference (professional networking retreat)**
 - **Receive pre-service training inclusive of a 30 hour community of practice experience with peers**
 - **Receive career placement support to take a leadership role in a high-need public school post-graduation**
 - **Opportunities for post-graduate licensure supervision**
- **Commit to 2 years of employment post-graduation in a high need school district (Local Education Agency)**

What Local Education Agencies (LEA) are eligible for WSW?

a. In Washington State

b. Must meet the following criteria (*defined in the Federal Registry*):

1. High-need Local Education Agency means a local education agency...

1. where at least 20% of children served are from low-income backgrounds

2. that serves at least 10,000 children from low-income backgrounds

3. that meets the eligibility requirements for funding under the SRSA (Small Rural School Achievement) program OR RLIS (Rural and Low-Income School) program

c. The LEA must be committed to installing School Mental Health through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), or is working on a plan to do so

The current list holds 177 districts. Examples of districts found on the list: Seattle School District No 1., East Valley School District (Spokane), Tukwila School District, Federal Way School District, Lummi Tribal Agency



Community of Practice

THE WSW COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (COP) SERVES THREE AIMS:

1

Grow and expand on School Social Worker's knowledge base through 45 hours of training on effective school mental health frameworks and culturally relevant, evidence supported data, systems, and practices across the MTSS continuum to ensure all students can thrive.

2

Reduce School Social Workers' sense of isolation and improve retention by facilitating community-building, camaraderie and consultation/supports to enrolled graduate students and practicum/field instructors.

3

Support and invest in building a Washington State School Social Work labor force that reflects the communities they serve by centering and uplifting voices from historically marginalized their positionality and experiences (caucusing, mentorship opportunities, etc.).

Community of Practice

- Students and field instructors meet for 45 minutes for synchronous didactic learning from regional and national experts on topics related to school social work.
- Second 45 minutes of community practice is for students-only and focuses on interactive hands-on learning to help deepen students' understanding of topics presented in first half of session
- Students are expected to review brief pre-work (short video, handout, brief article) and complete post-session assignments (no assignment should take longer than 30 minutes- I promise!)

SESSIONS
1 – 10

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK FRAMEWORKS AND SYSTEMS:
Assessment, Implementation and Monitoring for School
and Student Change

Sessions 1-10 focus on examining the current state of school-based behavioral healthcare in Washington as well as the roles social workers fill. Field instructors and students will receive didactic presentations from local/national experts on systems-level models for addressing school-based behavioral healthcare needs in a social work context.

Participants will learn skills in analyzing environments to determine needed supports and building/implementing requisite Washington MTSS systems and strategies.

SESSIONS
11 – 20

INNOVATIONS IN INTERVENTIONS ACROSS TIERS:
Presenting Issues and Potential Solutions in School Social
Work Practice

Sessions 11-20 focus on innovations and interventions related to common topics in school social work practice including small group and individual counseling interventions. All systems-level and individual/group models are grounded in evidence-based practices and viewed through a lens of race and equity. Participants will have access to training and implementation support from leaders in the field.

What do social workers do in schools?

- Social workers engage in **three tiers of intervention** in schools: school-wide interventions like social emotional learning, targeted group interventions, and intensive individual interventions with those at highest levels of need.
- School social workers work **across levels of practice**, including things such as family engagement, community outreach & partnerships, and advocacy
- School social workers work on **multidisciplinary teams** alongside educators, speech and occupational therapists, nurses, school administrators, etc.
- *Social workers may also work in schools as employees of outside community-based organizations, but WSW targets positions that are school-funded.*

What do social workers do in schools?



HOW DO I APPLY FOR A SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK PLACEMENT?

- Each of you are assigned* to a Field Faculty member in the Office of Field Education. **Contact your Field Faculty and let them know right away if you'd like to apply to the WSW program for AY 2024-25.**
- You and your Field Faculty will **look at the list of approved LEA's**, and determine which are the best match for your interests, needs and location. We will then explore existing partnerships, and places where we can forge something new together. Both are possible, with time and patience.
- Your Field Faculty will **walk you through the application process**, noting that some districts will not be ready with their spots confirmed on 2/1. Start early, and be prepared for this to take a few months to confirm.
- Prioritize your WSW application, and your meeting with your Field Faculty. While we wait to figure out where, when and how you can apply for practicum, you can work on your **resume and a generic cover letter**.
- Questions about **eligibility** (anything not yet on the list) go to the WSW coordinator, Sofie Aaron.

* Email sswfield@uw.edu if you don't know who your person is!

Who should apply and how to apply for the Workforce for Student Well-Being?

Who should apply?

Students entering specialized placements this Fall 2024

1. **Students with financial need (based on FAFSA)**
2. **Students in good standing at the University of Washington-Seattle School of Social Work**
3. **Interested in a career as a school social worker in Washington State**
4. **Interested in working in the realm of tiered mental health and education**

Steps

1. **Complete the FAFSA or WASFA**
2. **Apply for UW-Seattle on the online application portal (<https://wswinitiative.org/>)**

LORs

- We recommend similar guidelines to the University of Washington School of Social Work:
- References should support your Social Work/Human Service background and/or academic preparedness, highlighting your potential for contributing to the learning community and School Social Work supporting the goals of the WSW. Family members, partners, clients, and personal friends are not appropriate references.

The deadline for Fall 2024 is April 30th 2024!!

WSW Financial Awards

Note: FAFSA is delayed which has lengthened our review process

How are award amounts determined?

- Up to **\$30,000**
- Based on financial need including scholarships, other funds as determined by FAFSA or WASFA

How might WSW affect SSW scholarships and Financial Aid?

- WSW may affect financial aid loan amounts
- If you receive the award, you will need to reach out to osfa@uw.edu to discuss financial aid implications
- Ask OSFA any finance questions as we do not operate this

GRANT TIMELINE

General Award Distribution

Part Time Advanced Standing

2nd year: Summer, Autumn

Full Time Day

2nd year: Autumn, Winter, Spring

Extended Degree Program

3rd year: Summer, Autumn, Winter,
Spring

Financial aid disbursements
occur generally **5 days before**
each quarter

Any questions about WSW?

WSW State Website: <https://wswinitiative.org/>

WSW State contact: wswinitiative@uw.edu

UW-Seattle WSW Webpage:

<https://socialwork.uw.edu/workforce-student-well-being-wsw>

UW-Seattle SSW WSW contact: sofieaa@uw.edu

WSW Program Coordinator: rbarrett@uw.edu