

**OSHDP** Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

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**Educational Stipend Program:  
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners  
Workforce Education and Training (WET) Programs  
Request for Application (RFA) #15-6423 Questions and Answers**

**Question 1:** Are these educational stipend programs available to graduate students who plan to work in the “non-profit” elements of the public mental health system (PMHS), specifically within the various outpatient and residentially based programs for foster youth and juvenile probation participants?

**Answer:** The WET educational stipend program is available to graduate students who complete their field placement/internship and commit to working in the PMHS. The PMHS means publicly-funded mental health programs/services and entities that are administered, in whole or in part, by the State departments or county. It does not include programs and/or services administered, in whole or in part by federal, state, county or private correctional entities. Therefore non-profit entities may be eligible sites for educational stipend program recipients so long as those sites meet the definition of the PMHS.

**Question 2:** Regarding Attachment 3, *Applicant References*, can an organization use their current contract with OSHPD as one of the references?

**Answer:** OSHPD recommends utilizing a third party reference as a part of your submission of a proposal. This does not prohibit an applicant from using its experience to inform how the application is prepared. However, OSHPD will not provide a reference to be used in response to this RFA, regardless of whether an applicant has a current contract or not.

**Question 3:** Can you send applicants a Word version of the attachments so that we can write on them to complete them?

**Answer:** WET can make the RFA available in a Word version upon request. Please send a separate email to [OSHDP.MHSAWET@oshpd.ca.gov](mailto:OSHDP.MHSAWET@oshpd.ca.gov) requesting a Word version of the RFA and WET staff will respond within 1-3 business days.

**Question 4:** Is this stipend program only for applicants that are currently still in a graduate program?

**Answer:** Yes, stipend recipients must be enrolled in a California school that trains graduate-level students studying to become psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners. However, this RFA does not result in a Grant Agreement with any

individuals, but with a California school or a consortia of California schools that will administer the educational stipend program.

**Question 5:** In the *Sample Grant Agreement*, section C (e), stipulates that "students participating in the stipend program shall complete a select field placement in the PMHS". Does this mean that similar to the prior contract qualifying students must complete their field placement in an agency run by or contracted with a county department of behavioral health?

**Answer:** Yes, the field placement and the employment obligation of any stipend recipient must be in a PMHS agency/organization. Please refer to the definition of the PMHS in Question 1, as the definition is consistent with the Mental Health Services Act. This is the same requirement across the previous educational stipend program contract and the other three educational stipend programs (Marriage and Family Therapy, Masters of Social Work and Clinical Psychology).

**Question 6:** There may be an error in the Sample Grant Agreement, Section D (2), as it states "the results of the demographic survey shall be reported in the quarterly or bi-monthly progress report".

**Answer:** Yes, this is a typographical error where bi-annually should replace bi-monthly. In all sections throughout this RFA, the progress report submission timeframe is either quarterly or bi-annually.