

## SHOULD I APPLY?

You should apply only if you have a serious interest in working within the public child welfare system after graduation. Should you receive a traineeship, you will be required to make a commitment to work as a caseworker in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency for at least two years upon completion of your undergraduate social work degree. Should you be unable to fulfill this commitment, you will be required to repay the funds you received.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR AT YOUR SCHOOL, OR**

Director & Principal Investigator  
Dawn.Konrady@stockton.edu  
or

Program Coordinator  
Luz.Pestritto@stockton.edu



## BCWEP Participating Academic Institutions

**Lead Organization:**  
Stockton University  
Child Welfare Education Institute

**Member Institutions:**  
Centenary University  
BSW Program

Georgian Court University  
Social Work Department

Monmouth University  
School of Social Work

Ramapo College of New Jersey  
Social Work Program

Rutgers University - Camden / Newark / New Brunswick  
School of Social Work

Seton Hall University  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work

**Partnering Organizations:**  
State of New Jersey  
Department of Children and Families

New Jersey Chapter of the  
National Association of Social Workers





## WHAT IS BCWEP?

BCWEP is a partnership of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, a consortium of seven accredited baccalaureate social work programs in New Jersey, and the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

The intent of the program is to enhance the public child welfare workforce by encouraging students with generalist social work education and additional coursework in child welfare to enter professional positions in New Jersey public child welfare agencies.

If awarded a child welfare traineeship through BCWEP, students will receive tuition and fees (minus any scholarship or grant awards) for one academic year. In return, students accepting a traineeship must sign a legally binding commitment to work for the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency for a minimum of two years following graduation.

## WHO MAY APPLY?

Any social work major in good standing enrolled at one of the participating colleges or universities may apply. Students must be ready to enter their direct service field placement, have a satisfactory grade point average, have a valid driver's license, and be recommended by the faculty of their social work program.

## ARE THERE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS?

Students must take at least one course in child welfare and request DCP&P for their field placement.

## WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

Students need to inform their program faculty of their interest in a child welfare career and BCWEP. Each social work program has a BCWEP Campus Academic Coordinator who can provide an [application](#) and offer assistance, advice, and information about the program.

Students meeting the eligibility requirements must complete the [BCWEP application](#), an updated resume that includes employment history, education, relevant volunteer experiences, and specialized skills (such as ability to speak a second language), and a personal statement. The Social Work Faculty will then prepare a letter of recommendation and submit the materials to the lead institution, Stockton University.

[BCWEP applications](#) must be received no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>. The selection of students for a traineeship is based upon criteria that include available funding, geographic distribution, availability of field placements and qualified supervisors, grade point average, demonstrated interest in a child welfare career, and social work faculty recommendations.

Successful applicants must undergo additional screening by the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency. All students interning at DCP&P must undergo a criminal background check, a CARI (Child Abuse Registry Index) check to verify that the student has no history of maltreatment of children, and a check of the applicant's driving record. (A valid driver's license is required. Because driving of state vehicles with clients is an essential function of this position, the following may disqualify you from consideration: driving record with five points or more within the past five years; any driving under the influence conviction within the past five years; or any combination of three motor vehicle violations/license suspensions involving the unsafe operation of a motor vehicle within the last five years.) Once cleared by DCP&P, students are matched with a qualified social work field instructor at a local or area office.

## WHERE IS THE FUNDING COMING FROM?

Traineeships are funded by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families and the Social Security Act, Title IV-E.

