

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN EXPERT IN ADDICTION?
THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE IS PROUD TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING
PAID FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY:**

**Social Workers on the Front Line of the Opioid Epidemic:
A Learning Collaborative
2020-2021**

Do you want to learn more about social work strategies to prevent and treat substance misuse and addiction? Do you want to help Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare offer leading information on these topics? Join the National Council for Behavioral Health and the School of Social Welfare's learning collaborative in the effort to enhance social work responses to the current opioid epidemic and other addiction-related consequences.

What is this learning collaborative?

Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare recognizes the impact of the opioid epidemic on communities across the nation. We are invested in ensuring students have the skills and resources they'll need to face this epidemic, so we have joined nine other schools from across the nation to:

- Refine and expand current addiction-related coursework;
- Establish and/or improve partnerships with field placement sites that offer addiction related services; and
- Engage students to provide feedback on the addiction-related coursework and Internships.

This learning collaborative brings together faculty, field placement supervisors, and students to apply strategies that will prepare social work students to support individuals and families impacted by the opioid and drug epidemic.

What are the benefits of participating in this opportunity?

- You will receive a stipend to support your learning! Students who are selected to participate in this collaborative will receive a total stipend of **\$5,625** pending completion of all of the requirements of this program. Payments will be made in three installments: **Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021.**
- You will develop a professional network and direct practice experience in treating addiction through faculty, field placements, and students from your school as well as other students in this collaborative from across the country who are striving to achieve similar goals.
- Your participation in this collaborative will inform how you, your peers and future students are learning about substance use, addiction and recovery.

How long is the learning collaborative?

Students will participate in the learning collaborative starting with an orientation call in late spring 2020 through May 2021 for a total of about 13 months.

What are the expectations of a student participating in this learning collaborative?

- Apply what you learn about substance use and addiction.
 - Students will be expected to start this learning collaborative in **late summer 2019** and fully participate in all areas of the collaborative **through May 2021**. Your participation includes enrollment in both of Stony Brook's substance abuse electives as well as successful completion of 2 semesters of field internship with our partner substance abuse agency in the community.
 - In addition to participating in all aspects of a field placement, students will accept an internship learning agreement that includes a learning objective and participation in other field related learning activities specifically related to addiction and this collaborative.
- Provide feedback about the design of substance use and addiction-related curricula.
 - Participating students will provide feedback on the applicability of coursework through end of semester course evaluations to ensure it is adequately preparing students for the field.
- Inform an evaluation of impact.
 - Students will participate in evaluation activities to assess the impact of the substance use and addiction-related curricula and field placements with the National Council on Behavioral Health and the School of Social Welfare. This may include your participation in quarterly virtual focus group calls; and providing feedback through interviews, surveys and/or forum posts to share your experience and input.
- Attend and participate in all meetings with faculty and staff associated with this Learning Collaborative.
 - This includes but is not limited to meetings with Dr. Melissa J. Earle (Faculty Champion), Dr. Richard Morgan, Warren Graham, Stony Brook's Field Education Coordinators, Field supervisors and instructors.

Am I eligible to participate?

You are eligible to participate in this learning collaborative if you are:

An MSW student enrolled at Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare. ***You must also be eligible to enroll in your second year of field education.***

Enrolled in and/or plan to complete the following courses by **June 2021**:

- **HWC 545 - Individual, Group and Family Treatment of Alcoholics and Substance Abusers**
- **HWC 579 – Special Topics in Social Work: Interventions in Substance and Alcohol Misuse**

Willing to complete a field placement at a substance abuse treatment agency that has partnered with Stony Brook and this Learning Collaborative. ***The field placements for the collaborative are located in the 5 boroughs of New York City and Suffolk County. You must live no more than an hour's commute from these field placements.***

On track to complete the majority or all of your **field placement requirements by June 2021.**

What are my next steps?

Review this announcement to make sure that you meet all of the eligibility requirements.

Write a 1-2 page essay discussing your interest in participating in this learning collaborative. In your essay, please include how the opioid crisis has impacted your social work practice; why you would like to enhance your understanding of treating opioid and other forms of addiction; and what, how, and/or where you envision yourself utilizing your enhanced addiction practice skills. Please email this essay to Dr. Melissa J. Earle (melissa.earle.1@stonybrook.edu) no later than **March 23, 2020**

Students who are selected to participate in this collaborative will be notified by **April 3, 2020** and will be expected to attend an orientation call with the Learning Collaborative in **late spring 2020**.