

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM INFORMATION

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We anticipate offering 15 practicum placements annually for 2nd Year and advanced standing MSW students. These stipends will be distributed among students selected from all MSW programs affiliated with the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System. Whereas most placements are located in the Salt Lake City area, others may be available in Saint George, Orem, South Jordan, Ogden, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls.

MSW practicum positions come with a financial stipend, distributed throughout the first 500 hours of the practicum. The last remaining hours are considered volunteer hours and are not paid. The current stipend amount totals \$7,500 or \$15.00/hour.

Expectations for practicum students at VA:

- Give 100% to the Veterans you serve, the VA and your assigned practicum area – follow through with assignments and responsibilities.
- Please consider the VA as your employer. Professional attire and behavior is expected.
- Be self-motivated.
- Attend all required trainings and student intern meetings.

Benefits from your VA practicum placement:

- Exceptional training and supervision while developing skills and abilities to successfully fulfill the role of a professional social worker in the workforce.
- Unique and challenging practicum opportunities.
- Experience within a large health care system and interdisciplinary treatment teams.
- Familiarity with the VA system, position duties, and key staff for networking & potential future job opportunities.
- Opportunity to give back by serving the Veterans who have served us.

Our practicum placements change from year to year. Placements for 2024 - 2025 include:

- Psychosocial Recovery and Rehabilitation Center (PRRC)
- (2) Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) – Outpatient Mental Health
- Couple and Family Therapy Program
- Homeless and Justice Clinical Recovery Program – VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
- Homeless and Justice Clinical Recovery Program – Homeless Outreach Program
- (2) Primary Care/Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) – Ogden, Utah and Pocatello, Idaho
- Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program
- Specialty Medical Social Work (Acute Medicine, Spinal Cord Injury, Transplant, Oncology, Polytrauma)
- (3) Primary Care Social Work – Orem, Utah; South Jordan, Utah; and Ogden, Utah
- Primary Care Social Work for Veteran with Serious Mental Illness
- Primary Care Social Work – Vulnerable Veteran Innovation PACT
- Food Security and Homeless Program
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Program

Due to the high demand and limited openings for practicum placements at the VA, students are selected through an application and Performance-Based Interview (PBI) process conducted by members of the VA Social Work Student Education Workgroup. PBI content and scores are used to determine specific student placements. We encourage you to visit <https://www.va.gov/PBI/index.asp> for information on Performance-Based Interviews and to review sample questions.

We hope to see YOU at the VA!

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
VA Salt Lake City Health Care System