Title IV-E of the Social Security Act focuses on providing safe and stable care for children who have been placed in out-of-home care as a result to maltreatment or other circumstances. This care lasts until the child can be safely returned home or placed permanently with an adoptive family or some other planned arrangement. The Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholars Program provides stipends to students who are interested in pursuing careers in public child welfare.
Child Welfare Scholars Program

As a member of a state-wide consortium led by the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the University of Minnesota’s Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, and supported by federal Title IV-E grant funding, the social work program at Bemidji State University offers specialized, high-quality education in child welfare.

BSU’s Child Welfare Scholars Program allows qualified undergraduate social work students to focus their educational pursuits on child welfare-related issues such as case management, foster care and adoption assistance. Title IV-E scholars commit to seeking employment in a public or tribal child welfare setting following graduation. Scholars who do not complete the work commitment are required to repay the stipend.

Child Welfare Social Workers

STIPEND

Bemidji State University Child Welfare Scholars receive $2,250 for each semester they are enrolled in the program. Stipends are paid directly to students and are not a scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Child Welfare Scholars Program, a Bemidji State student must be:
- ...interested in pursuing a career in public child welfare
- ...willing to expand their educations in the field of child welfare
- ...enrolled as a full-time student at Bemidji State University (minimum 12 credits)
- ...accepted into the social work program
- ...in good academic standing
- ...a U.S. citizen

After graduation, you must be willing to seek employment in a public child welfare agency for 4 1/2 months for each semester that you received support from the stipend. For example, if you received the stipend for two semesters, you would commit to working nine months for a public child welfare agency.

POSSIBLE CAREERS

Work in a public child welfare agency may include:
Child protection, including investigations and case management, foster care, adoption, family services, tribal social services, etc.