Multicultural Scholars Program in Social Work
Preparing future generations of multicultural leaders to address important societal problems

School of Social Welfare, The University of Kansas

The Multicultural Scholars Program in Social Work is open to outstanding undergraduate students from underrepresented groups (e.g., African Americans, Asian-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, first generation college students, and low-socio-economic status students, as defined by Pell Grant eligibility, depending on the needs of a given major) who are committed to rigorous academic work and to support their peers in the program. As a MSP scholar, you will receive a scholarship every semester you are in the BSW Program and join a community of students and professors whose goal it is to ensure your academic and career success. Scholars get one-on-one academic and professional mentoring with a faculty member and provide and receive peer support; scholars also get to attend social work education events and cultural events in the community to further their development as professionals. Scholars must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE APPLICATION ESSAY

The application essay (maximum of 3 double-spaced pages) is in three parts:

PART I: Describe the personal qualities and cultural experiences that have prepared you for learning and making a difference as a social worker. (Examples include: ability to listen, persuade, organize people, analyze information; experiences of oppression, discrimination, or privilege; cultural traditions.) What experiences have you had, cross-culturally, that would make you a good fit for the Multicultural Scholars Program? What have you learned from these experiences that you might contribute to the program?

PART II: The MSP provides faculty mentoring and peer support, along with exposure to cultural experiences. What areas of your development as a student and a social work professional might benefit from the MSP Program? What specific issues do you wrestle with that you might work on if you were selected as a Scholar?

Part III: Your Mission. In one sentence, state your mission as a student. For example, “I will learn to make a difference in __________ (your interests) through __________ (your plans for learning and contributing).”
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http://www.socwel.ku.edu

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

The application consists of: a) this cover sheet with identifying information, b) an application essay, and c) a college transcript or ARTS form.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Name: ____________________________________________ Student Number: ___________
Social Security Number: ____________________ E-Mail address: ______________________
Local Address: ______________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
Local Phone: (Home) ___________________________ (Work) ________________________
(____)___________________________
Permanent Address:  __________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
Permanent Phone: (____)______________________
Parent(s)/Guardian(s’ or Partners Names: _______________________________________

Current Status (Circle One):         Freshman         Sophomore         Junior         Senior

Expected Date of Graduation:  ________________________________________________
Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____________     SW GPA _____________
(Please attach a copy of your college transcript or ARTS Form)

Which of the following apply to you? (check all that apply)

☐ African American  ☐ Asian American  ☐ Latino/a American  ☐ First Nations/Indigenous
☐ Permanent resident ☐ High financial need ☐ First generation college student
☐ Transfer student from a community college or Haskell Indian Nations University

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Application Cover Sheet (with identifying information)  __________
Application Essay (see attached instructions)  __________
College Transcript or ARTS Form (may use photocopy)  __________

Deadline April 15. Applications should be mailed or delivered to the School of Social Welfare;
Attn: Anne Williford, 1545 Lilac Lane; University of Kansas; Lawrence, KS 66045-3129.

MSP Application