

Superior Region Partnership WET Scope of Work

Program Objective and Overview

Objective: The 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) program aims to address the shortage of mental health practitioners in the public mental health system (PMHS) through a framework that engages Regional Partnerships and supports individuals through five potential categories including: Pipeline Development, Undergraduate College and University Scholarships, Clinical Master and Doctoral Graduate Education Stipends, and Retention Activities.

Overview: As outlined in the OSHPD 5-year WET Plan, California is separated into five different regions with each region designating its local priorities within the five categories.

The Superior Region - consisting of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity County - selected these three categories as their local priorities.

1. Loan Repayment – Up to 200 awardees will receive \$11,000 each, after completing a 12-month service obligation in the PMHS.

Eligible individuals include those who have obtained masters level or doctorate level degrees, or mental health professionals and administrative staff selected by individual counties as working in hard-to-fill or hard-to-retain positions. The definition of hard-to-fill or hard-to-retain positions will be identified by each individual county. Recipients would receive the funds after they completed the 12-month service obligation. Recipients will be able to apply for the award more than once.

2. Educational Stipend - Up to 150 awardees will receive \$8000 per academic year, in installments throughout the year.

Eligible students are those who participate in traditional, full-time face-to-face programs and those enrolled in part-time distributed learning programs will be eligible for educational stipends. Eligible individuals include those who have obtained masters level or doctorate level degrees, or mental health professionals and administrative staff selected by individual counties as working in hard-to-fill or hard-to-retain positions. In exchange for this stipend, individuals would agree to work in a PMHS setting in the Superior Region for the equivalent of one year of full-time service in an approved position, regardless of number of years of stipend participation. This can be completed through full-time or part-time employment or, if approved by the agency and the school, through volunteer work. For all stipends, if the employment requirement is not fulfilled within a four-year period, then monetary payback will be required.

2. Peer scholarship - The SRP will dedicate \$1,000 scholarships to individuals who identify as Peers, to use for career development activities.

Career development activities can include travel costs, registration to conferences, or specialized training costs. The SRP supports efforts to implement a statewide peer certification, which has yet to be established. The scholarship may be applied to costs related to statewide peer certification once it has been established. The scholarship may also be applied to areas related to pursuing a higher education degree. In exchange for the Peer Specialist scholarships individuals would agree to work in a PMHS setting for the equivalent of one year of half-time service, in an approved position.

Funding

Superior Region Partnership:

Award amount: \$3,813,955

33% match: \$1,258,605

Total: \$5,072,560

County breakdown of match:

Butte	17.481%
Colusa	3.689%
Del Norte	3.950%
Glenn	4.026%
Humboldt	10.653%
Lake	5.950%
Lassen	3.887%
Mendocino	7.331%
Modoc	2.383%
Nevada	7.796%
Plumas	3.513%
Shasta	14.221%
Sierra	2.150%
Siskiyou	4.705%
Tehama	5.730%
Trinity	2.536%

Compensation

15% Administrative Rate

CalMHSA Responsibilities

1. Collect local match funds.
 - a. CalMHSA will enter into agreements with each Superior Region County or the Superior Region as a collective. Upon signed agreement, CalMHSA will collect all local matching funds and reserve them for use on this project, which may include transfer of funds to the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. All funds will be held in the CalMHSA account for use in the WET RP project, until which time that they are sent to the awardees or to OSHPD. Interest will be noted on the County report from CalMHSA and will be utilized to support the project.
2. Manage awards-
 - a. Assist counties in developing expanded eligibility criteria.
 - b. Assist counties in developing terms of agreement, including failure to meet/complete terms.

- c. Assist counties in developing loan repayment verification statements.
 - d. Provide support and follow up with awardees.
 - e. Obtain proof of eligibility by contacting the awardee's supervisor and confirming hours and employment. Periodically throughout the project obligation period CalMHSA will reengage with the supervisor for additional confirmation of continued employment.
 - f. Provide award letters
 - g. If requested by the Superior Region members, CalMHSA will confirm employment and adherence to the stipulations of the award on a regular basis, to be determined by CalMHSA and the Superior Region members.
3. Disbursement of funds to awardees
- a. Disburse stipends, scholarships, and loans directly to awardees or institutions/foundations.
 - b. Funds will be dispersed only to awardees who have successfully completed their service obligations to the project. If it is determined that an applicant does not meet the service obligations outlined in the agreement between CalMHSA and the applicant then CalMHSA will cancel the contract and inform the applicant of the decision, to include not distributing payment to the awardee.
 - c. If funds have been provided to an awardee and there is a later determination that the awardee has not met all obligations then CalMHSA will work to recoup all costs from the awardee, which may include sending the recoupment to a collections agency. CalMHSA cannot guarantee all funds will be recouped.
4. Reporting
- a. CalMHSA will provide periodic reports to each county. The reports will include information, to be agreed upon between the counties and CalMHSA, to assist the RP counties in their Annual Report process. The information will be provided on an agreed upon timeline. This information may include award/awardee information, continued eligibility, funds expended, and obligation time remaining.