The Child Welfare Training Collaborative (CWTC) is a Title IV-E Educational Project housed in the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Department of Social Work. CWTC is a partnership built between the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), Children’s Protective Services (CPS). The partnership targets potential graduate students who wish to pursue a specialized Master of Social Work (MSW) education in children and families with the goal of employment in the state CPS workforce.
Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Collaborative (CWTC)

**CWTC Project Overview**

The Department of Social Work at UTEP in partnership with DFPS offers individualized and specialized training in child welfare through a contract with Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

The project also provides educational training/workshops to current DFPS employees and Foster-Adoptive parents with the intention of improving skills and knowledge of those working closely with children in the foster-care system.

The stipend project is available to both current CPS employees and Full and Part-Time MSW students.

The project prepares selected DFPS employees through graduate social work education by providing:

- Financial assistance for costs associated with the MSW degree
- Excellent child welfare oriented classes and field internships designed for professional development
- Special seminars and workshops focused on child welfare issues to enhance your educational experience
- Staff assistance to provide you advising and field internship support
- Rewarding opportunities to improve the lives of children & families

**MSW Program Facts & Requirements**

The Master of Social Work program began in 2010 and prepares students for advanced practice and leadership in the Paso del Norte border region and beyond. Students are trained to address multiple social and health needs of bi-cultural and bi-national communities, including child welfare and family related issues such as domestic violence.

The degree plan requires:

- 60 credits for Full-Time and Part-Time students
- Student must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university/college
- Field education which is completed over four semesters totaling 960 hours in the field (for CWTC stipend students, two semesters of field education is completed with CPS)

All classes are offered during late afternoon or evening hours (3:00 or 3:30 or 6:00 or 6:30PM).

For links to the online application and specific application requirements, including deadlines for applications, please visit our website at socialwork.utep.edu.

**CPS Staff Requirements**

Employees in the Title IV-E funded positions with DFPS must contact their immediate supervisor for proper approval and guidance through the application process. Employees who receive approval to participate in this project will be expected to repay the stipend funding with time as a CPS employee in a Title IV-E allowable position: 4 months for each semester funded by the stipend.

**Non-CPS Staff Requirements**

Current Part-Time MSW students and future MSW students must submit an application to the CWTC Project Coordinator in addition to submitting an application to CPS for employment clearance in order to qualify for the stipend program. Students who receive approval to participate in the project will be expected to repay the stipend funding with time as a CPS employee in a Title IV-E allowable position: 8 months for every semester funded by the stipend.

For more information on the application process please see our website at socialwork.utep.edu/cwtc.