

## Tennessee Department of Children's Services Title IV-E Tuition Assistance Program

- Provides full-time undergraduate students with tuition and financial assistance for up to four semesters.
- DCS pays Title IV-E graduates a higher starting salary.
- In return, participants must work for DCS for 18 to 24 months (depending upon the amount of funding they receive) as a frontline case manager when they graduate.

### For More Information:

Contact the Department of Children's Services Title IV-E Tuition Assistance Program

- Office: 615-253-5821
- Email: IV-E\_Tuition.EL-DCS@tn.gov
- [tn.gov/youth](http://tn.gov/youth)



## If you are a social work major interested in a career in child welfare, the Tennessee Department of Children's Services is interested in you!

Social workers who work in child welfare provide an array of prevention and intervention services to children and families, particularly children who:

- have been, or are, at risk of abuse or neglect
- children with special medical or mental health needs
- delinquent children
- children who do not have adult caregivers.

### Information and Application

Please visit the Tennessee Department of Children's Services website to download the application:

<http://www.tn.gov/youth/training/titleIV-E.shtml>



**kidcentral tn**  
KIDCENTRALTN.COM



Department of Children's Services, Authorization No. 359158.  
500 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost  
of \$0.33 per copy. January 2014

education



## Are You Interested in a Career in Child Welfare?

The Tennessee Department of Children's Services Title IV-E Tuition Assistance Program can help you. Learn more!



**Tennessee Department Of Children Service**  
[tn.gov/youth](http://tn.gov/youth) | [facebook.com/TNdcS](https://facebook.com/TNdcS) | [@TN\\_DCS](https://twitter.com/TN_DCS)

## **This Tuition Assistance Program Can Kick-Start Your Career in Social Work**

The Title IV-E Bachelor of Social Work Tuition Assistance Program provides financial support for selected social work majors who commit to working with children and families immediately after graduation.

According to the Child Welfare League of America, a social work-educated workforce is directly linked to better outcomes for children and families and lowers staff turnover in child welfare settings.

The Tennessee Department of Children's Services administers this program to better meet the challenges of child welfare by professionalizing its workforce with frontline staff trained in social work.



## **Apply for the Title IV-E Tuition Assistance Program!**

### **To Apply to the Program:**

The application process and materials are located on the Title IV-E website. Please carefully read all the information provided on the website:  
<http://www.tn.gov/youth/training/titleIV-E.shtml>

### **Application Deadlines:**

Fall Semester – June 15  
Spring Semester – November 15.

Failure to fully complete and submit application materials by the deadlines listed could result in disqualification or delays to your admittance to the Program.

### **To be Eligible for Participation You Must:**

- Be a U.S citizen or eligible to work in the U.S.
- Undergo a background check and fingerprinting.
- Be admitted into an accredited social work program at a participating university and have at least a 2.6 GPA in social work courses.
- Have no more than four semesters remaining before graduating.
- Commit to work as a front-line case manager with DCS immediately upon graduation.

## **What DCS staff say about being a Child Welfare Case Manager**

### **What is it like to be a Child Welfare Case Manager?**

“A frontline Case Manager is a jack of all trades. I have to navigate employment issues, welfare and insurance, education systems, mental health, law enforcement, court, alcohol and drug issues, housing and family dynamics that impact the children and families I serve daily as well as manage service providers, support staff and administrative policy directives.”

### **Is being a frontline Case Manager rewarding?**

“Being a case worker is rewarding; you get to see the best and worst in people. There are some personality traits that are a benefit to have in this job: flexibility, open-mindedness, the ability to multi-task, good communication skills and liking people. It's not a job for the faint of heart, but then again you wouldn't be a social worker if you were timid!”

### **Is being a frontline Case Manager challenging?**

“It's challenging all of the time because the decisions we make affect other people's lives.”

