

Question 5: The stipulation that stipend recipients obtain a Master's Degree from a M.S. in Psychology-Marriage and Family Therapy (*Sample Grant Agreement*, Section C) is limiting schools that offer Master's of Arts (M.A.) degrees in Psychology-Marriage and Family Therapy and other equivalent degree titles for MFT students. Are students who are in any qualifying Master's degree towards practicing as an MFT able to apply for the MFT stipends?

Answer: A MFT graduate program whether it is an M.S., M.A. or equivalent title is eligible under this RFA so long as the graduate student is eligible to provide services for which a MFT graduate degree is required.

Question 6: In the *Sample Grant Agreement*, section C (e), stipulates that "students participating in the stipend program shall complete a select field placement in the PMHS". Does this mean that similar to the prior contract qualifying students must complete their field placement in an agency run by or contracted with a county department of behavioral health?

Answer: Yes, the field placement and the employment obligation of any stipend recipient must be in a PMHS agency/organization. Please refer to the definition of the PMHS in Question 1, as the definition is consistent with the Mental Health Services Act. This is the same requirement across the previous educational stipend program contract and the other three educational stipend programs (Masters of Social Work, Clinical Psychology and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners).

Question 7: There may be an error in the Sample Grant Agreement, Section D (2), as it states "the results of the demographic survey shall be reported in the quarterly or bi-monthly progress report".

Answer: Yes, this is a typographical error where bi-annually should replace bi-monthly. In all sections throughout this RFA, the progress report submission timeframe is either quarterly or bi-annually.

Question 8: What is the definition of a California school? Alliant Educational Foundation (a private foundation) submits grants on behalf of Alliant International University. Are we eligible to apply? We currently have two state contracts approved under this structure.

Answer: Alliant Educational Foundation, if representing Alliant International University is eligible to apply so long as the activities in Section B, "Purpose and Description of Services" can be addressed in California. The school itself does not have to be the applying entity so long as the educational stipend program requirements under this RFA can be completed in California and an educational institution is being represented.