

2026-2027 School Social Work Scholarship



Thank you for your interest in the School Social Work Scholarship. This scholarship is designed to support students dedicated to the social work profession who demonstrate financial need and a commitment to school social work. The School Social Work Scholarship awards are available for up to \$15,000 per student, depending on financial need, enrollment status, and available funding. Once selected as a recipient of the scholarship, funds will be distributed over multiple semesters as outlined on award letter. Please complete all sections of this application accurately and thoughtfully.

Application deadline for spring 2027 and summer 2027: November 30, 2026, by 11:59PM

Eligibility: To be considered for the School Social Work Scholarship, student's must:

- Be admitted to and enrolled in, or actively applying to the BSW or MSW at Bethel University
- Maintain [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) throughout the duration of the award.
- A minimum GPA of 2.25 or higher for BSW; for MSW a minimum GPA requirement of 3.0 or higher
- BSW undergraduate students must have junior standing and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits per semester. Undergraduate students enrolling in summer courses are eligible for funding if enrolled in at least 2 credits.
- MSW graduate students must be enrolled at least half time (3 credits per semester). Graduate students who wish to enroll during the summer can receive funding if they are enrolled for at least 2 credits.
- Commit to practicum placement experiences that align with justice-informed social work values and community engagement and be placed within a Minnesota school.
- Complete the scholarship application and must be received by Bethel's Social Work Department by the deadline of November 30th, 2026, by 11:59PM.

Requirements: Recipients of the School Social Work Scholarship must agree to the following:

- Continue enrollment in the program each semester of the award period.
- Participate in program events, workshops, or professional development opportunities supported by the scholarship.
- Uphold the ethical and professional standards of the social work profession.
- Students will be required to commit to practicum placements in a Minnesota school setting. If a school-based setting cannot be identified, then a school-linked placement instead.
- Students must commit to working in a Minnesota school-based social work position for the number of years commensurate to the number of years they received funding.

Priority will be given to new students or those who have not received School Social Work Scholarship funding, but all students are welcome to apply. Recipients do not need to demonstrate need. Bethel may need to reduce institutionally-controlled aid and/or other outside aid to prevent an overaward. See Financial Aid Terms and Conditions for additional details: <https://www.bethel.edu/undergrad/financial-aid/eligibility/terms-conditions>.

Office of Financial Aid • Bethel University • 3900 Bethel Drive • St. Paul, MN 55112 • fax: 651.635.1491 • phone: 651.638.6241 • 1.800.255.8706 ext. 6241

Last Updated: 09/11/2026

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BETHEL
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Section 1: Personal Information

Name _____

Bethel ID # (if known) _____

Email Address _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Section 2: Academic Program Information

1. Please select your academic program and format: (check one)
 - ☐ BSW - Traditional In-Person Program
 - ☐ BSW - Online Program
 - ☐ MSW – Full Program (traditional)
 - ☐ MSW – Advanced Standing
2. Are you a new or returning student?
 - ☐ New student (starting my first semester in the program)
 - ☐ Returning student
 - ☐ If a returning student, please indicate semester and year of program start _____
3. What is your expected graduation date? (e.g. May 2026) _____

Section 3: MDE Scholarship History

1. Have you previously been awarded and received School Social Work Scholarship funding?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
2. If you answered “yes” above, please state the total amount of School Social Work Scholarship funding you have been awarded.
\$ _____
3. Have you previously received paid practicum funding to support the completion of your practicum hours?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
4. If you answered “yes” above, please state the total amount of paid practicum funding you have already received.
\$ _____

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Section 4: Personal Statements

1. Financial or Other Hardships: Please describe any financial challenges or other hardships (e.g., family responsibilities, health issues, first-generation student status) that may impact your ability to fund your education. (250 words max)

2. Identity and Professional Goals: The social work profession is enriched by the diverse backgrounds and lived experiences of its practitioners. Please describe how your personal background and experiences have shaped your decision to pursue a career in social work. (250 words max)

Section 5: Scholarship Requirements & Confirmation

Please review and acknowledge the following requirements for the School Social Work Scholarship by checking each box.

☐ **Field Placement Requirement:** I understand that if I accept this scholarship, my field placement must be in a **school setting**.

☐ **Post-Graduation Employment Requirement:** I understand that if I accept this scholarship, I am required to work as a school social worker in a **Minnesota school** for a minimum of **one year post-graduation**.

☐ **Scholarship Acknowledgement:** Scholarships are funded through the Minnesota Department of Education's Student Support Personnel Workforce Pathway Grant Opportunity. I understand that, if selected as a scholarship recipient, the award is not automatically renewable. Students must reapply each year to be considered for scholarship funding in subsequent years. Scholarship funds are limited because the current grant is available for a maximum of two years, and continued scholarship support is contingent upon the Social Work Department successfully reapplying for and receiving future grant funding

FERPA prohibits us from discussing or releasing information about your financial aid without your authorization. If you would like to authorize access to your spouse, parents, or any other third party you may do so here: <https://www.bethel.edu/financial-aid/proxy>

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My name in the field below serves as my signature and indicates that the information I have provided is true and complete. By signing below, I certify that I have read, understood, and agree to the requirements listed above and that all information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Print Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Completed applications should be submitted by November 30, 2026 at 11:59PM via email to:
socialwork@bethel.edu

If you prefer, applications can be sent via intercampus mail to:

Bethel University
P.O. Box #2319
ATTN: Nick Zeimet

Questions? contact socialwork@bethel.edu

Recipient decisions will be made within the first week of December 2026.