

# SOCIAL WORK IN INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

- Would you like to explore the rapidly growing field of integrated health care?
- Would you like to experience working in a team-based collaborative care setting?
- Do you anticipate social work practice in an underserved area of one of the 13 rural counties in Western North Carolina?
- Are you a member of a federally recognized tribe or are you drawn to working with a Native population, particularly the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians?

If so, you may be interested in the “Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Professionals (BHWET)” grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Western Carolina University’s social work program received this four year federal grant in 2017 building upon the successful initiative that began in 2014.

This project is aimed at expanding the behavioral health workforce serving the needs of individuals across the lifespan who have or are at risk of mental health and substance use disorders and reside on the Qualla Boundary, home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and across the Western North Carolina (WNC) region of Southern Appalachia.

Students may apply in June for a stipend up to \$10,000 in their Specialization year with up to \$5,000 disbursement at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters. Advanced Standing and part-time students are also eligible to apply. A limited number of stipends are available. Students will have completed coursework in Integrated Healthcare (SOCW 530) and an online Interprofessional Education module, identified an appropriate integrated health field placement and engage in a variety of interprofessional education experiences, be in good academic standing, and sign a letter of commitment.



Since the initiative began, almost all of the students who participated are working in the region and were hired by agencies across WNC before or within three months of graduation. Many of these students simultaneously work toward a certificate in substance abuse studies.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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