Frequently asked questions

What is the BHWET Program?
BHWET is the University of Missouri Collaborative Behavioral Health Workforce Education Training for Professionals Program funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the federal government.

What is the Program’s purpose?
The program is designed to increase the behavioral health workforce in rural and urban settings with clients across the life span who are at-risk for developing or who have a recognized behavioral health disorder. To accomplish this goal, the program will recruit 120 MSW students who are dedicated to working with vulnerable and underserved clients in integrated behavioral health settings.

Who is eligible to apply?
MSW concentration level students interested in future careers working in integrated health settings. Students must meet the academic and course requirements to begin the concentration practicum.

How do I apply?
Plan to attend the concentration practicum planning meeting the semester prior to beginning the concentration practicum. Notices of the meeting date will be sent out at least one month in advance on Canvas. After attending the meeting complete the practicum application form, AND complete the BHWET application located on the Canvas MSW Information Site. The application will contain additional instructions.

What benefits will I receive from participation?
- $10,000 stipend for two semester 600 hour commitment
- Specialized training in integrated behavioral health
- Opportunities for professional networking Access to a behavioral health career services network

What is my commitment?
Students selected as BWHET Scholars agree to:
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to public service, community collaboration, and leadership in working with populations across the life span, including rural and medically underserved areas.
- Complete a concentration level practicum/final field practicum in an approved integrated care site providing behavioral health services.
- Register for and participate in a 1 credit hour concentration field seminar each semester.
- Participate in additional trainings and networking opportunities and career development activities.
- Seek employment after graduation working in behavioral health with populations across the life span, including rural and medically underserved areas.
How do BHWET Scholars select practicum sites?

As with any practicum experience at UMSL students engage in a structured self-selection process. When interviewing with potential practicum sites, keep in mind that the organization needs to provide the following experiences in order to host a BWHET scholar.

The organization must provide:

- Behavioral health services, preferably with medically underserved and/or rural populations;
- Opportunities for the student to work with integrated behavioral health teams (e.g., physicians, nurses, counselors, psychiatrists, behavioral therapists);
- Opportunities for linkages to primary care settings and inter-professional learning experiences;
- Incorporation of families (as feasible) into the prevention and treatment of behavioral health conditions.

Students can inquire at the practicum site interview about whether or not these opportunities might be available. Once a student selects a potential site a member of the BWHET committee will call the organization and confirm that it can provide these experiences. All sites and supervisors must be approved by the Office of Field Education.

What practicum sites have agreed to host BHWET scholars?

**BJC Behavioral Health**  
Contact: Mary Louise Kimmel, LCSW  
(314) 206-3854  
mlk6830@bjc.org

**Adapt of Missouri**  
Contact: Liz Buerck  
1-888-657-3201 x7004  
LizBuerck@adapt.us

**Preferred Family Healthcare**  
Contact: Gina Titone, LCSW  
314-475-3005

**Myrtle Hilliard Davis Comprehensive Health Centers, Inc.**  
Contact: Regina Askew, MA, MPH  
(314) 367-5820  
raskew@mhdchc.org

**Family Care Health Centers**  
Contact: April Jones, MSW  
(314) 353-5190 ext. 3300  
AJones@fchcstl.org

**Great Circle**  
Contact: Carrie Bolm, LCSW  
573-442-8331  
Carrie.Bolm@GreatCircle.org
Crider Center - Compass Health, Inc.
Contact: Mallory Benoist
636-887-3936
mbenoist@cridercenter.org

Places for People
Contact: Jen May
314-535-5600 ext.: 211
jmay@placesforpeople.org

SSM Behavioral Health-DePaul Hospital
Contact: Brea Strong LMSW MBA
314.344.6154
brea_strong@ssmhc.com

Alternative Behavioral Care
Contact: Erin Steingruby Huddleston, LCSW
(636) 477-6111
erin@alternativebehavioralcare.com

The Aviary
Contact: Anne Marie Lynch, LCSW
314-456-9277
amlynch@aviaryrc.com

Jennings High School Health Clinic
Chardial "Chay" Samuel, LCSW
(314) 653-8141
Samuel_C@kids.wustl.edu

Epworth Family and Children’s Services
Contact: Aaron Daugherty
314-918-3352
adaugherty@epworth.org

Behavioral Health Response
Contact: Mandy Bowlin, LCSW
314-469-1500
mbowlin@bhrworldwide.com

Bridgeway Behavioral Health
Contact: Louis Appelman, MSW
314-332-7486
louis.socialworker@yahoo.com

This is not an exhaustive list. Students are welcome to explore other sites as well. Any site that can provide the opportunities mentioned above and meets the School’s criteria for site and supervisor approval will be considered. Please refrain from contacting potential practicum sites until your practicum application has been approved by our UMSL faculty advisor. Please begin the process by sending a cover letter and resume to the designated contact person. Follow up with a phone call if you do not receive a response within a week.
How are selections made? When will I be notified?

Scholar selection is a competitive process. Applications will be reviewed by the BHWET Scholars Committee promptly after the application deadline. Applicants will be notified regarding selection sometime prior to the semester in which they plan to complete the concentration practicum.

Questions? Call or e-mail a member of the BWHET Committee. Professors Sharon Johnson, Patti Rosenthal, and Sha Lai Williams.