

# Frequently Asked Questions About Internship Placements

## Can I work full-time and be a MSW student?

**No and yes.** If you have flexibility in your workplace, meaning working evenings or weekends is an option, then yes. If you work a regular 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday job, with no flexibility, then no. Based on student and agency need, some flexibility in the day and time is possible, but remember that most of the agencies we place in are only open or fully staffed Monday through Friday during daytime hours. Additionally, an intern may not structure his/her internship by only working in the evenings or weekends. As students, it is important to participate in the full range of activities in an agency. Since most agencies are not fully functioning on the weekends or evenings this cannot occur then.

## What is the internship placement process?

Once a student is accepted into the program they will receive an invitation to purchase our internship database system, [Tevera](#). After registering for Tevera the internship application must be completed and submitted. An internship coordinator reviews all applications and contacts agencies in students' geographic area to assess agency interest as well as appropriateness for placement. Students may develop a list of possible placements to share with the internship coordinator in their geographic area, however, students **do not contact** agencies directly. The internship coordinator facilitates all internship placement efforts to prevent duplication of efforts.

## Do I have to interview for an internship?

**Yes.** Your internship will be an educational assignment requiring you to interview with an agency. Prepare for your interview as you would for a job interview. Read everything about the agency you can find, prepare questions to ask them, and be prepared for questions they may ask you. Dress as you would for a job interview and bring a hard copy of your resume to face-to-face interviews.

## Will I get my choice of internship site or population?

Internship coordinators work very hard to make a good match for students, however, there are no guarantees that a student will receive their choice of placement or population.

There are many factors that go into placement decisions, including educational and

work experience, future work interests, the geographic area you live in, and the availability of social service placements in that area. Potential placement availability fluctuates on a regular basis. Students in the program are encouraged to ask questions and engage with the internship coordinators throughout the internship placement process.

## How far will I have to travel?

Most MSW students, depending on where they live, travel up to an hour to their placement. Much of this is determined by the geographic area (rural vs. urban, saturation of social service agencies employing MSW's, etc.). Students should consider this when budgeting for their graduate school expenses.