

## **Applying to the BCWEP Program through Ramapo College**

There is a four step process of acceptance before a student is accepted for the BCWEP. BCWEP students must be:

1. accepted for admission to the Social Work Major\* at Ramapo College and remain as a social work major enrolled in Theory and Practice of Social Work I and II
2. accepted for the BCWEP program by Ramapo College faculty committee
3. accepted for the BCWEP program by Stockton College
4. accepted for the BCWEP program by the Office of Children/DCP&P

Depending upon how many people apply for the program, the acceptance process will be competitive. The process has become increasingly competitive as DCP&P, due to a decrease in worker turnover, has decreased the number of internship slots they can offer.

**It is highly recommended that you discuss the possibility of your application to BCWEP with your family and with the Financial Aid Office at Ramapo. Please be aware how the payment of your tuition would impact on your total financial situation for next year. Tuition is paid directly to Ramapo College by Stockton College of New Jersey. If you are accepted in the program and accept it, you will be asked to sign a binding contract stating that you will work for the public child welfare agency for two years upon graduation in exchange for the tuition monies.**

**Successful applicants must undergo additional screening by the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency. This includes a criminal background check, a CARI (Child Abuse Registry Index) and a check of your driving record. A valid driver's license is required by the time you complete the application. Driving of state vehicles with clients is an essential function of CP&P employment (not student status). You may be disqualified from obtaining a position as a student trainee if you have a problematic driving record (see the BCWEP brochure for specifics). Please be aware of your license status before you apply to the BCWEP program. The background tests will pick up problems.**

Turn in a completed [BCWEP Application](#) as early as possible but no later than the due date of March 1st. BCWEP Applications require you to submit personal information including contact information, a valid driver's license number, student ID number, confirmation that you have a social security number, employment eligibility, and county preferences for field placements. Additionally, the application requires submission of personal statement, current resume, and unofficial transcript copy.

After submission of your application to BCWEP, the BCWEP Committee will review that application and make a recommendation. At this point, you may be asked to come in for an interview to determine whether you will be recommended to BCWEP. If your BCWEP application is approved, the Social Work Faculty will then submit a recommendation to the lead institution, Stockton University.

BCWEP applications must be received no later than March 1st. The selection of students for a traineeship is based upon criteria which include available funding, geographic distribution, availability of field placements and qualified supervisors, grade point average, demonstrated interest in a child welfare career, and social work faculty recommendations. Acceptance into BCWEP is also contingent upon approval of the internship by DCP&P, which requires a background check and valid driver's license.

If your application is accepted by Stockton College you will have further discussion with Cardacia Davis, Director of Field Education at Ramapo College, regarding your field placement. Once your placement is determined you will be asked to go for an interview at DCP&P. At that time the agency will conduct a Criminal Background check with fingerprints as well as a Child Abuse Registry Information (CARI) check.

Upon acceptance into the BCWEP program, the Stockton University BCWEP office will mail you a contract with appropriate forms. In that contract you agree to work for DCP&P for two years in exchange for the tuition reimbursement and stipend. You enter the program only after the contract is signed.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Ramapo College of NJ BCWEP Coordinator and Director of Field Education: Cardacia Davis, [cdavis3@ramapo.edu](mailto:cdavis3@ramapo.edu) 201-684-7297

\* To be eligible for the Ramapo College Social Work Program you must, by the fall: have minimum of 60 credits; minimum 2.75 grade pt. average; B average in Introduction to Social Work and History and Philosophy of Social Welfare; have completed College English, Social Issues, Biology, Political Economy of Social Welfare or Introduction to Macro Economics, Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Psychology, and Sociology of the Family. You can obtain an application to the Social Work Program from the Ramapo College Social Work Website, SSHS office or a Social Work faculty member.