Howard University School of Social Work Statement of Financial Support

Investing in yourself to be a HOWARD PREPARED social worker increases your ability to professionally practice social work, engage in global problem solving, and lead in forward thinking in the areas of equality, equity, social justice and human rights. It is important that you be proactive by managing your budget and maximize your learning dollars.

What is financial aid?

Financial aid is the catch-all term that refers to all types of funds available to cover the cost of education. Financial aid comes in many forms and covers the cost of anything related to the way you are paying for school. Loans, scholarships, grants, work awards, work study, graduate assistantships, and stipends are different streams of funding used to create, and are all considered part of, your financial aid package.

New and continuing graduate students are encouraged to apply early for internal financial support through the HUSSW Office of Admissions along with external scholarship opportunities. Students may also apply for financial support administered through the Graduate School by visiting *http://www.gs.howard.edu/financialaid/newstudents.html*. Furthermore, external funding opportunities can be reviewed at *http://socialworklicensemap.com/become-a-social-worker/social-work-scholarships/*

Financial Support Programs:

Limited merit-based financial support for HUSSW students that is available through HUSSW includes graduate research and teaching assistantships, fellowships, and tuition scholarships. Award recipients are expected to perform specific duties for between 10 - 20 hours per week during the academic year, depending upon their award. Graduate Assistants' duties and responsibilities can be viewed at *http://www.gs.howard.edu/financial/grad asst regulations.htm*.

Eligibility:

The minimum GPA requirement is 3.0 for new and 3.2 for continuing students. However, because these awards are merit-based and reviewed competitively, the definition of quality academic performance may vary.

Financial Support is awarded is awarded at the beginning of the academic year. Award recipients must

- 1) enroll for both the fall and spring term as full-time students (defined by a minimum of 9 credit hours),
- 2) attend a 3 hour orientation, and
- 3) provide a hand written thank you note to specific donors.

Award Package:

The award package for graduate research / teaching assistantships, fellowships, scholarships, work-based stipends vary, but may include a tuition waiver and stipend. In some cases, additional support may be available through grants funded projects.

HUSSW Universal Application Guidelines and additional instructions:

HUSSW has created a universal application for both new and continuing students. Applications for continuing students are open in March and are due April 15th.

New Students will receive information on how to apply *once they have been accepted* into the program.