



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
John Cochran Medical Center
915 North Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63106-4199
Office: 314-289-6391
Fax: 314-289-6597

Dear Practicum Applicant:

We are excited that you are interested in completing your concentration practicum with The Veterans Health Administration, the largest integrated health system in our nation. The St. Louis VA is a full service health system providing comprehensive medical and mental health services to veterans in our area. Please read the below instructions carefully as our application process has changed.

Process for applying for Fall Practicum at St. Louis VA

1. Applications will be accepted **Feb 15th through March 15th** of each year for the following Fall Semester (see attachment). Students may request an application and listing of possible concentration opportunities at the VA by emailing Barbara.Alexander2@va.gov or contacting the VA Social Work Office at (314) 289-6391. *Exceptions to the above time line will be made on a case by case basis during this initial transition period, however we strongly recommend that students complete their application by the above deadline.*
2. Once the application deadline has expired, applications will be screened with interviews conducted during the month of April. Initial interviews of practicum candidates will be conducted by the St. Louis VA Internship Committee. If the committee recommends a student for placement then the student may be requested to participate in a second interview with a potential field instructor.
3. Final decisions regarding practicum acceptance will be made by **April 30th** of each year. Students will be notified directly of the committee's decision and those selected for placement will receive an Orientation Packet by mail.

Process for applying for Spring Practicum at St. Louis VA

1. Spring students will be considered on a case by case basis, following the above identified process. Interested students will need to contact the main social work office to request an application. Applications will be accepted **Sept 15th through October 15th** of each year for the following Spring Semester.
2. Applicants will be screened with interviews conducted during the month of November. Final decisions regarding practicum acceptance will be made by **November 30th** of each year. Students will be notified directly and those selected for placement will receive an Orientation Packet by mail.

Students interested in completing a **Summer Internship** should contact the social work office directly to determine if summer placement is available. We look forward to our continued collaboration with you and your students as we enhance our Field Education Program. Please contact us directly with any questions.

Sincerely,

St. Louis VA Social Work Internship Committee



SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Street Address	
City ST ZIP Code	
Home Phone	
Alternative Phone	
E-Mail Address	
Current University Attending Name and Address	

1. Which semester are you interested in applying for:

_____ Fall 2012 & Spring 2013 (completed applications due by March 15)

_____ Spring 2013 & Summer 2013 (completed applications due by October 15)

_____ Other (please explain) _____

2. Which days and specific hours do you anticipate being available to complete your practicum hours?

3. How did you learn of practicum opportunities at the St. Louis Veterans Health System?

4. Which area of specialization are you interested in? Please identify interests starting with your initial preferences (*there is a listing of VA programs attached for reference*)

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

5. Have you completed previous practicum or internships, if so where and when?

6. Are there specific learning or training goals that you would like to accomplish at the VA?

7. Would you like to be considered for a stipend if one is available (yes/no) ? _____

If so, will you be receiving any stipends or grants from other sources during this same time period? (if yes, please be specific regarding source and amount)

Social Work Internship KSAs

On a separate sheet of paper, please summarize your current Knowledge, Skills and Abilities in the below areas:

1. Please describe your current skills in the use of computer software applications for drafting documents and data management.
2. Please summarize your current training and/or experience working with a variety of demographic ranges including; specific ages, race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status, and/or veteran populations.
3. Please indicate your education and experience advocating for solutions to acute and chronic needs of both special needs groups and/or individuals.
4. Please share your previous experiences and current ability to complete psychosocial assessments and treatment planning and to communicate and work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary treatment team setting.

AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURE

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as an intern, any false statements, omissions, or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in dismissal.

Name (printed)	
Signature/ Date	

Application Checklist

- Complete and Sign above Application
- Attach completed answers to KSA
- Attach a copy of current résumé
- Attach or send a copy of current transcript
- Submit by mail or in person the above items prior to application deadline to the below address.

Completed Applications along with current résumé can be mailed to:

Barbara Alexander
Social Work Department
John Cochran VA Medical Center
915 North Grand
St. Louis, MO 63103
