

# Announcing for Academic Year 2017-18: MSW **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** PROGRAM

## Do you want to...

- Learn how **government works** and how **you can affect it**?
- Work in communities to help **solve social problems**?
- Advocate for **rights, fair laws, and more just social policies**?
- Contribute to **local and international efforts** to help our poorest citizens?
  - Learn how to be an **effective advocate** for social change?

## ...then the MSU School of Social Work MSW **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program is for you!

Apply now for this exciting new program, which will accept scholars to begin study in August 2017.

### **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** will:

- Receive a \$5,000 scholarship, which is renewable for a second year of study.
- Complete a field placement in an agency with an advocacy focus.
- Interact with social program and governmental officials.
- Participate in a seminar series led by policy advocacy leaders from diverse backgrounds.
- Receive individualized mentoring on education and career development from faculty members with related experience.
- Take advanced coursework in social activism and policy advocacy skills.

**W**e are creating this program to provide cutting-edge training for the next generation of change agents dedicated to helping society solve difficult social problems. MSU School of Social Work faculty members possess a wealth of expertise in policy advocacy. With our close access to the State Capitol, ongoing relationships with over 500 social service agencies (both government and nonprofit advocacy organizations), leadership in new technology, and small class sizes, **the School of Social Work is uniquely positioned to prepare you for effective advocacy practice.**

To learn more, contact **Dr. Sacha Klein** [734-985-0548 or [kleinsa@msu.edu](mailto:kleinsa@msu.edu)] or see the application instructions on the back of this page.

## ADVOCACY SCHOLARS Program

# Application Instructions

The **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program is open only to students who can fulfill the program requirements. Two steps are necessary to apply for the MSU School of Social Work (SSW) **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program.

You must apply to, and be accepted into, the MSU School of Social Work **MSW** Program. For the online application process, go to <http://grad.msu.edu/apply/online.aspx>.

You must complete a separate application to become an **ADVOCACY SCHOLAR**. This involves completing a brief essay as described below:

Submit a statement of no more than 1,000 words that articulates why you are interested in the **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program and why you think you are a strong candidate. Include a description of the policy advocacy and systems change skills you hope to acquire, career goals, social issues of greatest interest in your study, and how the **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program would contribute to these interests and goals. Also, include any previous work, volunteer, or classroom experience you have that is specifically related to advocacy.

Both MSU MSW Program applicants AND current MSU MSW students who will be returning MSW students in academic year 2017-18 are welcome to apply for the Advocacy Scholars Program. All applicants must complete the application essay. Returning MSU MSW students must also submit a letter of recommendation from an MSU SSW faculty member and a copy of their MSU transcripts.

Email your completed application in a Word or PDF file to [swgradoffice@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:swgradoffice@ssc.msu.edu); please write "**Advocacy Scholars Application**" in the subject line.

Your applications to both the **MSW** Program and the **ADVOCACY SCHOLARS** Program must be received by January 10, 2017.