

Berkeley Social Welfare

Application for the Child Welfare Scholars Program Fall 2022 Admission

Students who have been accepted for admission to the Berkeley Social Welfare MSW Program may apply to be considered for participation in the Child Welfare Scholars Program. Eligible applicants are invited to a panel interview with Berkeley MSW Program faculty and county child welfare agency representatives as part of the selection process, which occurs simultaneously with the annual admissions cycle each academic year.

How to Apply

Prospective Child Welfare Scholars submit an application to the program as a supplement to their online application for admission to the Berkeley MSW Program.

1. When you submit your [UC Berkeley Graduate and Professional Application for Admission](#), indicate on the Social Welfare Program Page that you wish to be considered for the Child Welfare Scholars Training Program.
2. **Upload (as a PDF file) to the Social Welfare Program Page of your online application for admission a written response to the following vignette:**

Street Lights

Child Protective Services in an urban county received a report from an elementary school about a five-year old boy, Marcus. The teacher noticed marks on his legs. When she asked him what happened, he said that last night his mother hit him with a belt. A child welfare worker interviewed the child and learned that when Marcus did not return home from the neighborhood center in his public housing complex “by the time the streetlights came on,” his mom hit him with a belt.

In a 500 word essay, please envision yourself as the child welfare worker. Prepare for your interview with the mother. Share examples of a few questions you will ask her. (Consider what else you want to know. Can you imagine finding signs of safety in how the mother addressed this situation?) Discuss at least two reasons why mom, as a parent, might have responded in this way. Please also share your reactions to this situation.*

*You are not expected to have child welfare expertise. We are more interested in your critical thinking skills.

For more information about the **Child Welfare Scholars Training Program** please visit socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/child-welfare-scholars-program

For more information about and instructions for **applying to the MSW Program** please visit socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/msw-admissions