



## Alumni Board of Governors Award

The Alumni Board of Governors Award was established in 2006 to help meet the growing needs of U-M MSW students who pursue national and global field experiences and/or global independent study projects. The Board strongly believes that as our world continues to change, it is becoming increasingly important for social work students to gain a local, national, and global perspective in order to address the challenges that face our global community.

The Alumni Board of Governors Award will assist students with the following:

- Travel to and from the location of the fieldwork site
- Room and board
- Transportation while on site
- Professional attire
- Program-related expenses

### Selection Criteria

1. Applicant must be an admitted U-M MSW student for the current scholarship year.
2. Applicant must be accepted into a SSW approved national or global field placement site or have support from a faculty instructor for a global independent study project for which they are seeking support.
3. Recipients will be publicly recognized as an award recipient in the Student Award Ceremony program, and may be asked to share their “story” (field experience) in School communications and at alumni events.
4. Recipients may be asked to meet with members of the Alumni Board of Governors to discuss their field experience and are strongly encouraged to attend the Benefactor Reception and Student Award Ceremony.
5. The Alumni Board of Governors will focus on the following characteristics of applicants in the review process: *Leadership, Initiative, Problem Solving Skills, Demonstrated Service to Others, Compassion, Integrity.*
6. Preference will be given to applicants for whom a national/global field placement/global independent study project is a new experience. Financial need may also be considered.
7. Preference will be given to applicants whose current curricular pursuits and future career goals closely align with the proposed national/global experience.
8. Personal statement - see next page.

### Awards

Awards will be granted based upon the selection criteria noted above. The strength, clarity, cohesiveness, and merit of an applicant’s personal statement will be strongly weighted in the decision-making process.

### To Apply

To apply for the Alumni Board of Governors Award, please fill out the application form and submit your application along with the other required documents to the Development Office by email to [nriske@umich.edu](mailto:nriske@umich.edu) by **5:00 p.m. on February 3, 2020.**

### Questions

For questions, contact Nancy Riske at [nriske@umich.edu](mailto:nriske@umich.edu) or 734-615-3402.

### Notification

Recipients and non-recipients will be notified via email no later than February 25, 2020.



## Alumni Board of Governors Award

Applicants for the 2020 Alumni Board of Governors Award are required to submit the following materials:

- A) The application form **electronically** filled out. For award consideration, please complete the application in its entirety.
- B) SSW Travel Cost Sheet.
- C) Request for Reference Form completed by one professional or academic reference.
- D) Personal Statement- a double-spaced three (3) page personal statement (12 pt.) that addresses the following:
  - 1. Discuss how a past (*work/volunteer/personal/educational*) experience where you worked with a diverse population has helped prepare you for your proposed national/global experience.
  - 2. Discuss how this proposed experience will be unique and how it will complement your career goals.
  - 3. How do you plan to “make a difference” in the community where your experience takes place? How do you plan to use your experience to “make a difference” at the School of Social Work? How might this experience impact your future as a social worker?

Please sign and date below indicating that you meet the eligibility criteria, and then complete the rest of the application and submit it along with other required documents to the Development Office by email at [nriske@umich.edu](mailto:nriske@umich.edu) by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2020**.

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**Print Name**

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**Signature and Date**

Signature of applicant is taken to certify that the applicant is enrolled as a full-time student in good standing in the Master of Social Work program at the University of Michigan, the applicant has been approved for a national/global field experience or has support from a faculty instructor for a global independent study project. Should the applicant be selected for an award as a result of this application process, applicant would be willing to be publicly recognized as the recipient of that award and would consent to their story being shared in alumni publications and at alumni events. Applicant would also make every possible effort to attend the Benefactor Reception and Student Award Ceremony and may be asked to meet members of the Alumni Board of Governors to share about their travel experience and the impact of this scholarship funding.

Award recipients who are unable to complete their field placement/global independent study will be required to repay in full the awarded funds. Students experiencing difficulties during their field placement should contact the Office of Field Instruction and global independent study should contact their faculty instructor and/or the Office of Global Activities immediately for assistance to resolve problems.