



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
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Interim Acting Commissioner

New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

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**2025 Mental Health Scholarship Program
One Year Residency (MHSP/OYR)
at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College (SSSW)**

Gotham Center
42-09 28th Street
Queens, NY 11101

DEADLINE FOR DOHMH MHSP/OYR Letter of Intent:

January 10, 2025

Send Letter of Intent to: mhsp@health.nyc.gov

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS TO SSSW AT HUNTER COLLEGE
OYR PROGRAM:**

March 1, 2025

For scholarship information email:

Marlene Mendelson, LCSW at mhsp@health.nyc.gov

INTRODUCTION:

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) Bureau of Mental Health and Bureau of Children, Youth, and Families invite qualified individuals to apply for the Fall 2025 Mental Health Scholarship Program (MHSP). The MHSP provides a unique opportunity for those employed in an **agency that has at least one program in contract with the DOHMH's Bureau of Mental Health or Bureau of Children, Youth, and Families** to pursue a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College's One Year Residency (OYR) Program.

The goal of the Mental Health Scholarship Program One Year Residency (MHSP/OYR) is to contribute to New York City's community mental health services system by increasing the pool of skilled professionals employed in community-based agencies in contract with DOHMH. This is accomplished through covering the full tuition cost of a graduate school education at Hunter College – Silberman School of Social Work for selected employees that meet the requirements. The MHSP/OYR scholarship is available to 20 applicants that meet both DOHMH and the Hunter College One Year Residency (OYR) requirements in each calendar year.

Acceptance into this program is contingent upon agency commitment to provide an educationally sound field placement, a SIFI certified field instructor and flexibility in work hours for the employee to attend classes. During the field year, the employee is expected to work their regular workweek (35-40 hours). However, 14 hours of this regular workweek will be completed via the field placement provided by the agency. Given the requirements of the MHSP/OYR, it is crucial that agency leadership and the employee understand this commitment prior to applying. Providers who are willing to offer this flexibility can benefit from increased employee morale, improved employee retention, employee professional growth and development and increased ability to fill higher-level positions.

The scholarship is a four (4) year commitment. MHSP students are required to work in their current program for the full two (2) years during school and must commit to work in their agency an additional two (2) years post-graduation to fulfill the DOHMH requirement for full reimbursement of tuition. This is one way the employee enriches the DOHMH's mental health provider community and gives back to their agency.

Applicants must be working in a **mental health program providing mental health services within your agency**.

The MHSP/OYR is tailored to the needs of these employees who continue to work while pursuing their Master's degree. In addition to receiving full tuition through DOHMH, the MHSP candidates receive intensive field/faculty advisement, mentoring, writing support and seminars through Hunter College.

ELIGIBILITY:

The MHSP provides qualified applicants with the opportunity to pursue an MSW degree. Applicants must meet **all of** these requirements:

- Applicants must be a full-time employee in an agency providing **mental health services** in contract with the Bureau of Mental Health (BMH) or the Bureau of Children, Youth, and Families (CYF).
- Applicants must meet Hunter College Silberman School of Social Work's admission standards and requirements for the OYR program.
- Applicants must have two years of full-time social work experience in a social service institution. The two years of experience must have been earned post-Bachelor's degree.
- Applicant's current job must include providing direct social service activities to individuals experiencing mental health concerns.
- Applicants must be legal residents of New York State.
- Applicants must commit to remain working at their current job for the duration of the MHSP/OYR for two (2) years during the program and for **two (2) years post-graduation**.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

PLEASE REVIEW THE LINK BELOW WHICH WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROGRAM:

[Hunter College – Silberman School of Social Work DOHMH Mental Health Scholarship Website](#)

- 1) Applicants can find the **DOHMH Letter of Intent** on the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College – Silberman School of Social Work DOHMH Mental Health Scholarship website. Contracted agencies will also receive the Letter of Intent. **Letter of Intent is due January 10, 2025 by 5:00 pm.**
- 2) Applicants must email the **Letter of Intent** to DOHMH for approval. We will only accept Letters of Intent sent to: mhsp@health.nyc.gov The Letter of Intent can be filled out directly on the form.
- 3) **By submitting the Letter of Intent, candidates are indicating their intention to apply to the DOHMH MHSP. The completion of the Letter of Intent is the first step in the process of applying for the DOHMH MHSP. After submission of the Letter of Intent to DOHMH, you**

will be contacted about your eligibility determination. If you are eligible to continue, your information will be sent to the Silberman School of Social Work's Admission Office.

- 4) **You will then submit your APPLICATION for the MHSP/OYR Program ONLINE to Hunter – Silberman School of Social Work. Select the “DOHMH Mental Health Scholarship Program” as the program of study.**
- 5) **If your APPLICATION moves to the next step in the process, you will be contacted about a GROUP INTERVIEW.**
- 6) You should indicate “pay by check” when you submit the application. Upon approval by DOHMH, the application fee will be waived.
- 7) **Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College OYR applications are due March 1, 2025. Note that the Silberman School of Social Work MHSP deadline of March 1, 2025 is a fixed deadline and may differ from other deadlines posted on the school's website. Applications received after March 1, 2025 will not be considered for the MHSP at Silberman but will be referred to the general admission process at the school.**

DOHMH cannot disclose any information with respect to candidacy.