The RICE Project Stipend Application Guidelines:

The RICE Project provides up to ten $12,000.00 stipends per year to students making a commitment to complete field practica and work in medically underserved areas of the state. Stipends are renewable if academic and practicum expectations are met, and a DHHS/HRSA Letter of Commitment is signed. All applicants to the UNE-SSW full-time program may apply for a RICE Stipend. Preference will be given to applicants currently employed in RICE Project Partner Agencies and other agencies that work with medically underserved populations, and to applicants with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better. In order to receive optimal consideration for a RICE Project Stipend, early application and acceptance to the UNE-SSW is encouraged. In addition to UNE-SSW admission criteria, Project Stipend recipients must:

1. Be accepted into the UNE-SSW for full-time study.
2. Provide demonstrated evidence of significant work or volunteer experience in rural, medically underserved areas or with medically underserved populations.
3. Demonstrate a commitment to work in rural, medically underserved areas or with medically underserved populations. Commitment will be evidenced through the submission of a written statement from the applicant, letters of reference from professionals who work in medically underserved areas or with medically underserved or high need and high demand populations, and an interview with the RICE Project Stipend committee. Recipients of RICE Project Stipends also must sign a Letter of Commitment for each stipend received.
4. Submit a RICE Stipend Application, and a narrative statement that provides clear and coherent responses to all of the following:
   A. What do you know about working with medically underserved, high need and high demand populations and working in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   B. What have you done as a volunteer or an employee to serve medically underserved, high need and high demand populations within inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   C. What do you want to learn about working with medically underserved, high need and high demand populations and in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   D. What can you contribute to medically underserved, high need and high demand populations and inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
5. Submit two letters of reference, from health professionals who work in medically underserved areas or with medically underserved or high need and high demand populations, that address the following questions:
   A. In what capacity do you know the RICE Stipend applicant?
   B. What is your evaluation of the applicant’s knowledge and understanding of medically underserved, high need and high demand populations and working in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   C. What is your evaluation of the applicant’s volunteer or employment experiences with medically underserved, high need and high demand populations in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   D. What do you think the applicant needs to learn in order to work effectively with medically underserved, high need and high demand populations in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?
   E. What do you think the RICE Stipend applicant can contribute to work with medically underserved, high need and high demand populations in inter-professional health and human service organizations in medically underserved areas?

6. Sign a Letter of Commitment that will be created for each RICE Stipend recipient by the RICE Project committee:
   A. Commit to fulfilling all UNE-SSWE required field education in one assigned RICE Project Partner Agency.
   B. Commit to working for at least two years upon graduation in a RICE Partner Agency if employment is available and offered.

7. Interview with RICE Stipend Committee:
   A. All RICE Stipend applicants will interview with members of the RICE Stipend Committee.
   B. Interviews will be conducted only after a Stipend applicant has been admitted to the School of Social Work.

If you are interested in more information about the RICE Project or applying for a RICE Project Stipend, please contact Dr. Wozniak (dwozniak@une.edu) with a subject line of RICE Project Stipend.
RICE Project Stipend Application

Name__________________________________________________________
Current Mailing Address:__________________________________________
Town________________________________________________________________
State_________________________Zip_________________________
Permanent Mailing Address:__________________________________________
Town________________________________________________________________
State_________________________Zip_________________________
E-Mail Address:____________________________________________________
Telephone Numbers:
Home(____)__________Cell(____)__________Work(____)__________
Social Security #:________________________________________________
Date of Birth___/___/______Gender________________________
Racial or Ethnic Identification________________________________________

Academic Degrees – Institutions – GPA (If below 3.5, please explain in your application letter.)
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Program Option: ____ 2-Year Full-time ____ Advance Standing (GPA in UG SW courses ______) 

Please attach a current Resume, a Statement that specifically addresses the questions in item #4 in the RICE Stipend Application Guidelines, and two RICE Stipend Letters of Reference described in item #5 of the Guidelines to this application, and send to: Dr. Danielle Wozniak, RICE Project Director, School of Social Work, University of New England, 716 Stevens Avenue, Portland, Maine 04103.