

EMU School of Social Work
Field Program
Sample Field Placement Interview Questions

Questions about your interests:

- 1) What interests you about our agency?
- 2) What do you hope to learn or what skills do you hope to develop in your placement?
- 3) What makes you interested in Social Work?
- 4) What are your career goals?
- 5) How do you think interning at this agency would help you be more prepared for what you want to do after you graduate?

Questions about your experiences and skills:

- 6) What kinds of experience have you had working with....
- 7) What are some of your strengths?
- 8) What do you find most challenging when working with others?
- 9) How do you define success for yourself?
- 10) Can you talk about a time when you were unclear about directions for a project or task and what you did to figure things out?
- 11) Can you talk about a time when you had to deal with a conflict and how you addressed it?
- 12) How do you maintain balance among all of your priorities?

Questions about your learning needs and preferences:

- 13) What has helped you when starting a new job, volunteer role, or project to learn about your roles and responsibilities?
- 14) Have you had experiences with supervision before? What was helpful and what was not helpful?
- 15) What type of feedback has been most helpful to you in the past (direct, written, example based, etc)?

Questions about your fit with the placement:

- 16) Can you talk about what you know about our agency? Our clients? Our services?
- 17) What experience do you have working in this community (where the agency is located)?
- 18) We know that students juggle a lot of responsibilities even before they begin interning. On average, students need to carve out 16 (or more for advanced MSW) hours each week to devote to their field placement. How do you anticipate reworking your existing schedule to make room for this?
- 19) At this internship, we are expected to work with interdisciplinary teams. What do you think would be the most challenging part of working with people who don't share our social work perspective and values?
- 20) What questions do you have for me (us)? (Or: What questions do you have about this internship that would help you decide if it seems like a good fit for you?)