



Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

111904

Date: September 23, 2025

To: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

Re: Authority to enter into an agreement with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service ("Fordham"), pursuant to which the County will participate in the college's Masters in Social Work Program, wherein the college's Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the County's Department of Social Services facilities, for the period commencing upon execution of the agreement through August 31, 2026.

The County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), requests authority to enter into an agreement ("Agreement," DSS2005PD-25) with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service ("Fordham"), pursuant to which the County will participate in the college's Masters in Social Work program, wherein Fordham's Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the Department facilities. The Agreement will be for a term commencing upon execution of same by the parties and expiring on August 31, 2026.

Under the Agreement, the County and Fordham will work in collaboration to develop a field education/internship program and continue to deliver quality care to the County's clients. Fordham, in coordination with the County, will foster an adequately supervised program of field education in social work for college students to participate in a fieldwork/internship at the County. There is no cost to the County for its collaboration in this program.

To support students through and post the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE), pursuant to CSWE's Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS), is allowing employment-based placements. Thus, students' social services place of employment and employment-related practice may be counted toward field requirements. A student's employment tasks and field assignments may be the same as long as the tasks have clear linkages to all CSWE and social work program

competencies and the associated behaviors and skills. An internship/field placement in other roles within the County may also be suitable and counted toward field requirements.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are to provide the fieldwork and clinical experience necessary to educate Fordham Social Work students in a professional environment.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health because this program will help train future social workers whose services are needed to ensure that children and other local residents in the County are receiving proper assistance and social services.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Department.

As the Agreement does not constitute a procurement of goods or services, the requirements of the County Procurement Policy do not apply.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend the adoption of the annexed Resolution.

LT/cmc

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10/03/2015 RAYMOND SCULKS SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Social Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County"), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement ("Agreement," DSS2005PD-25) with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service ("Fordham"), pursuant to which the County will participate in the college's Masters in Social Work Program, wherein Fordham' Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the County's Department of Social Services facilities, for a term commencing upon execution of same by the parties and expiring on August 31, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, that there will be no cost to the County for its collaboration in this program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, or his duly authorized designee, is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

1. Account to be Charged/Credited:

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
					\$0.00

2. Budget Funding Year(s):

Start Date: Execution
(must match resolution)

End Date: August 31, 2026

3. Funding Source:

Federal	%	CFDA#(s)			
State	%	State ID#(s)			
Operating/ Tax Levy	%				
Capital	%				

4. Total NTE: \$0.00

(must match resolution)