

ARTICLE 4. SOCIAL WORK

R4-6-401. Curriculum

- A.** An applicant for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker shall have a baccalaureate degree in social work from a regionally accredited college or university in a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent foreign degree as determined by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education.
- B.** An applicant for licensure as a master social worker or a clinical social worker shall have a master or higher degree in social work from a regionally accredited college or university in a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent foreign degree as determined by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education.

Historical Note

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 10 A.A.R. 2700, effective July 1, 2004 (Supp. 04-2).

R4-6-402. Examination

- A.** To be licensed as a baccalaureate social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score on the bachelors, masters, advanced generalist or clinical examination offered by A.S.W.B.
- B.** To be licensed as a master social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score as on the masters, advanced generalist or clinical examination offered by A.S.W.B.
- C.** To be licensed as a clinical social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score on the clinical examination offered by A.S.W.B.
- D.** An applicant for baccalaureate social worker, master social worker or clinical social worker licensure shall receive a passing score on an approved examination for the level of licensure requested within 12 months after the date of service of the written deficiency notice described in R4-6-302(D)(6). An applicant shall not take an approved licensure examination more than twice during the 12-month testing period.
- E.** If an applicant does not receive a passing score on an approved licensure examination within the 12 months referenced in subsection (D), the agency shall close the applicant's file with no recourse to appeal. To receive further consideration for licensure, an applicant shall submit a new application and fee.

Historical Note

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 10 A.A.R. 2700, effective July 1, 2004 (Supp. 04-2).

R4-6-403. Supervised Work Experience for Clinical Social Worker Licensure

- A.** After completing the degree required in R4-6-401(B), an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall complete a minimum of 3200 hours of supervised work experience in the practice of clinical social work in no less than 24 months.
 - 1. Supervised work experience in the practice of clinical social work is limited to the use of psychotherapy for the purpose of assessment, diagnosis and treatment of individuals, couples, families and groups.
 - 2. The 3200 hours of supervised work experience in clinical social work shall include a minimum of 1600 hours of direct client contact.
- B.** During the period of required supervised work experience, an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall not engage in independent practice.

- C. There is no supervised work experience requirement for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker or a master social worker.

Historical Note

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 10 A.A.R. 2700, effective July 1, 2004 (Supp. 04-2).

R4-6-404. Clinical Supervision for Clinical Social Worker Licensure

- A. During the supervised work experience required in R4-6-403, an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall receive a minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervision in no less than 24 months.
- B. During the supervised work experience required in R4-6-403, an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall demonstrate satisfactory performance in the following areas: assessment, diagnostics, individual and group psychotherapy, referrals, personal integrity, appropriate use of supervision, insight into client's problems, objectivity, ethics, concern for welfare of clients, responsibility, boundaries, recognition of own limits, and confidentiality by having the applicant's clinical supervisor submit a performance evaluation on forms available from the agency.
- C. The time span covered by the performance evaluations shall be the same as that for the supervised work experience required in R4-6-403.
- D. Clinical supervision of an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall be provided by a clinical social worker licensed in Arizona.
- E. An applicant may submit a written request to the social work credentialing committee for an exemption from the requirement of subsection (D). The request shall include the name of the behavioral health professional proposed by the applicant to act as the clinical supervisor, a copy of the proposed clinical supervisor's transcript and curriculum vitae, and any additional documentation requested by the committee. The social work credentialing committee shall review the supervision exemption request to determine whether the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience to provide supervision acceptable for clinical social worker licensure. If the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience, the social work credentialing committee shall grant the supervision exemption request.
 1. The social work credentialing committee shall accept a maximum of 75 hours of clinical supervision provided by an alternative behavioral health professional as provided in subsection (E)(2). An applicant must obtain a minimum of 25 hours of clinical supervision by a social worker at the masters or higher level certified or licensed at the independent level by a state behavioral health regulatory entity.
 2. When reviewing supervision exemption requests, the social work credentialing committee will only consider supervision provided by a masters or higher level professional certified or licensed at the independent level by a state behavioral health regulatory entity, a licensed psychologist, or a medical doctor with a specialty in psychiatry. The social work credentialing committee will take into consideration an applicant's ability to demonstrate that supervision by a certified or licensed social worker was not available or available supervision was not specific to the applicant's area of practice. When considering the availability of a certified or licensed social worker, the social work credentialing committee will consider the size of the professional setting in which the applicant worked and its geographic location.

3. The social work credentialing committee will not grant an exemption request for an unlicensed clinical supervisor providing clinical supervision in Arizona after July 1, 2006, except that an exemption may be granted by the committee if the clinical supervisor holds a current active license to practice behavioral health at the independent level and is providing services pursuant to a contract or grant with the federal government under the authority of 25 U.S.C. 450 - 450(n) or 25 U.S.C. 1601 - 1683.
4. Beginning on July 1, 2006, the social work credentialing committee will not grant an exemption request for a substance abuse counselor.

Historical Note

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 10 A.A.R. 2700, effective July 1, 2004 (Supp. 04-2). Amended by exempt rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 2713, effective June 27, 2005 (Supp. 05-2).

R4-6-405. Licensed Master Social Worker and Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker – Independent Practice Prohibition

- A. Neither a licensed master social worker nor a licensed baccalaureate social worker shall engage in the independent practice of clinical social work. A licensed master social worker and a licensed baccalaureate social worker shall only engage in the practice of clinical social work under direct supervision.
- B. A licensed baccalaureate social worker shall only engage in the independent practice of nonclinical social work after obtaining a minimum of 3200 hours of supervised work experience in social work in no less than 24 months after being licensed as a bachelor social worker by the Board.
- C. A licensed master social worker may engage in the independent practice of nonclinical social work.

Historical Note

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 10 A.A.R. 2700, effective July 1, 2004 (Supp. 04-2).