

OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 675. STATE BOARD OF LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS

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TITLE 675. STATE BOARD OF LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS

CHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

[Authority: 59 O.S.Supp. 1980, §§ 1250.1 through 1273]

[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

675:1-1-1. Purpose

This Chapter establishes criteria for the administrative operations of the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers.

675:1-1-1.1. Definitions

For purposes of this title, the following words and terms shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"**Educational supervision**" means face to face interaction between the supervisor and supervisee. Face to face supervision does not include interaction through electronic means unless said interaction is approved by the Board on a case by case basis prior to the supervision.

"**LCSW**" means licensed clinical social worker.

"**LMSW**" means licensed masters social worker.

"**LSW**" means licensed social worker.

"**LSW-Adm**" means licensed social worker with a specialty of administration.

"**LSWA**" means licensed social worker associate.

"**Assessment**" means the gathering of data about emotional, behavioral, mental, environmental, biopsychosocial, and interactional processes gathered in an effort to identify the client's past and current level of functioning. Assessment may also include the use of standardized psychometric testing instruments upon successful completion of appropriate, specialized courses or training.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 250, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04;

Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11 (emergency); Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1728, eff 7-26-12]

675:1-1-2. Name

The name of the Board shall be the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers.

675:1-1-3. Makeup of Board

There shall be seven (7) members of the Board. Three of the members of the Board shall be licensed social workers or licensed clinical social workers licensed under this law. Two other members shall be licensed social work associates and/or licensed masters social workers. One member shall be the president of the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The remaining member of the Board shall be selected from and shall represent the general public.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 250, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04]

675:1-1-4. Officers of the Board

The Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. Election of officers will occur on a biennial basis.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 250, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04;

Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11 (emergency); Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1728, eff 7-26-12]

675:1-1-5. Executive Secretary Section 675:1-1-5. Executive Secretary [REVOKED]

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 250, eff 11-14-03 (emergency);

Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04]

675:1-1-6. Consultant(s) to the Board

Consultant(s) shall be appointed by the Board to assist in carrying out duties as needs for such Consultant(s) are defined. Appropriate compensation may be set for reimbursement of the cost of such consultation.

675:1-1-7. Quorum

Four members of the Board of Licensed Social Workers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All action by the Board requires a majority vote of the Board members present.

675:1-1-8. Meeting dates

The Board shall meet at least once every three months and shall be available for called meetings at the pleasure of the Chairman or by a quorum of four members. Meetings shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law for the State of Oklahoma.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 250, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04]

675:1-1-9. Fee schedule

(a) Fees.

(1) Licensure:

- (A) Application processing fee - \$150.00
- (B) National criminal history record check - at cost

(2) Renewal:

- (A) Renewal of license - \$100.00
- (B) Late fee - \$50.00

(3) Continuing education fees:

- (A) Annual continuing education provider's application fee - \$200.00 (Any fees paid in the year 2004 and prior to the effective date of this rule may be applied up to the annual fee for year 2004.)
- (B) Annual web-site link to provider - \$25.00
- (C) Licensee request for program/event approval - \$40.00 each

(4) Miscellaneous:

- (A) Duplicate or replaced license certificate - \$25.00
- (B) Duplicate renewal card - \$10.00
- (C) Written verification of licensure - \$20.00
- (D) Duplication of public records - \$0.25 per page
- (E) Application for Board Approved Supervisor - \$150.00
- (F) Investigation/prosecution - at cost incurred
- (G) Probation - \$100.00 per month
- (H) Returned check processing fee - \$50.00

(b) Submission of fees.

- (1) All fees assessed by the Board as set out in this section shall be received prior to processing an application.
- (2) All fees are non-refundable

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 1812, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11 (emergency); Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1728, eff 7-26-12]

CHAPTER 3. INDIVIDUAL PROCEEDINGS

[Authority: 59 O.S. §§ 1250.1 through 1273]

[Source: Codified 7-1-04]

675:3-1-1. Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to set forth the procedures of the Board used in the investigations of and hearings held for complaints and for individual proceedings.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 251, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1813, eff 7-1-04]

675:3-1-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"**Act**" means the Social Worker's Licensing Act, 59 O.S., §§ 1250, et seq., as amended.

"**APA**" means Article I and/or Article II of the Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250, et seq.

"**Board**" means the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers.

"**Citizen Complaint**" means a written statement of alleged violation of the Act by a person licensed or certified by the Board and submitted to the Board office by any member of the public.

"**Complaint Committee**" means a committee made up of the Board Chair or his or her designee, former or current Board(s) member appointed by the Chair and the Attorney General Liaison to the Board.

"**Formal Complaint**" means a written statement of alleged violation of the Act by a person licensed or certified by the Board and which is filed by the Board's attorney along with a Notice of Hearing scheduling an individual proceeding before the Board.

"**Hearing**" means the mechanism employed by the Board to provide Due Process to a respondent in an individual proceeding.

"**Individual proceeding**" means the formal process by which the Board takes administrative action against a person licensed or certified by the Board in accordance with the Act and the APA.

"**Respondent**" means the person against whom an individual proceeding is initiated.

"**Staff**" means the personnel of the Board, through employment or contract.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 251, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1813, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2018, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1729, eff 7-26-12]

675:3-1-3. Complaint procedure

(a) **Receiving complaints.** The Board shall receive citizen complaints against licensees through the mail or in person at the Board office. Only written citizen complaints shall be accepted for consideration, unless extenuating circumstances exist. The written citizen complaint may be anonymous as long as it contains detailed information sufficient to independently verify the allegations made. Upon receipt of the citizen complaint, the Board staff shall:

- (1) stamp all pages with a Board stamp which indicates the date of receipt,
- (2) review the citizen complaint to determine if the person against whom the complaint is made is a current licensee,
- (3) generate a letter to the complainant indicating receipt and review of the citizen complaint by Board officials (if applicable),
- (4) log the citizen complaint by assigning a number consisting of the year and sequence number in which it was received, record the date received, name of complainant (if provided), and the name and license number of the licensee,
- (5) place the citizen complaint in a pending file,
- (6) notify the members of the Complaint Committee of receipt of a citizen complaint by providing a copy to each member.

(b) **Reviewing complaints.** Upon notification that a complaint has been received, the Complaint Committee shall review the contents to determine whether or not the allegation constitutes a possible violation of the Code of Professional Conduct. If the allegation does not indicate a possible violation of this code, the Complaint Committee shall instruct the Board staff to generate a letter to the complainant thanking them for their concern and advising them that the complaint does not fall within the purview of the Board. If the allegation does indicate a possible violation of this code, the Complaint Committee shall make the following determination:

- (1) The alleged violation appears to be one which would not, if found to be valid, result in a denial, revocation or suspension of a license, but one which does indicate the need for Board review and possible informal action.

(2) The alleged violation appears to be one which could, if found to be valid, result in a denial, revocation or suspension of a license.

(c) Allegations, if substantiated, not appearing to result in a denial, revocation or suspension of a license. If an alleged violation appears to be one which would not result in a denial of renewal, revocation or suspension of a license, the chair or chair's designee shall proceed with addressing the allegation by reviewing the complaint with the Attorney General liaison for the Board. Upon the consent of the chair or chair's designee and the advice of the Attorney General liaison the chair or chair's designee shall proceed by:

- (1) Notification of the licensee by certified mail that a citizen complaint has been received, outlining the nature of the complaint.
- (2) Forwarding to the licensee a copy of the informal process for addressing citizen complaints, which requires:

- (A) a prompt letter to the Board from the licensee responding to the merits of the complaint;
- (B) an informal interview with the Board to fully explore the issues involved in the complaint;
- (C) an agreement by the Board and the licensee on the merits of the complaint;
- (D) a proposed Consent Decree for disciplinary action for the licensee, approved by the Board and signed by the licensee and the chair or chair's designee, which may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- (i) a letter of education instructing the licensee to correct the aspect of practice in question;
- (ii) a tutorial assigned to the licensee to remedy the practice in question, under the supervision of a Board Approved Supervisor assigned by the Board, with the wishes and needs of the licensee taken into consideration; or
- (iii) a letter of censure reprimanding the licensee for the practice in question;

- (E) a review of the course of action in a specified time, not longer than six months, to determine whether or not remediation has taken place; and

- (F) a letter to the licensee indicating that the informal process has ended; or,

- (3) Referral to the formal investigation process when:

- (A) the licensee fails to respond to the certified letter from the Board;
- (B) the informal process reveals new or expanded allegations that indicate the possibility of a denial, revocation or suspension of a license;
- (C) the licensee fails to meet the requirements of Consent Decree without good cause.

- (4) A Consent Decree entered into pursuant to this subsection that is agreed to by the Board and the licensee shall not be considered a disciplinary action and will not appear on the Board's website or be reported to a national databank.

(d) Allegations, if substantiated, appearing to result in a denial, revocation or suspension of a license. If an alleged violation appears to be one which would result in a denial of renewal, revocation or suspension of a license, the Complaint Committee shall proceed with addressing the complaint by the process detailed below based upon agreement of a majority of its members:

- (1) Contacting an investigator designated by the Board as qualified to address the nature of the complaint.

- (2) Providing the designated investigator with names and addresses of the complainant, if available, and the licensee.

- (3) Issuing a letter of intent that specifies:

- (A) the intended parameters of the investigation;
- (B) the individuals to be interviewed;
- (C) the contract fee and travel reimbursement, as allowed by statute;
- (D) the time frame for completing the investigation.

- (4) Indicating whether or not the licensee should be interviewed by the contract investigator, in reference to:

- (A) advice by the Attorney General liaison not to do so in order to reserve the interview with the licensee in a setting under oath;
- (B) the possibility of a criminal investigation being conducted concurrently or subsequently to the Board investigation.

(5) Submitting the investigative report to the Complaint Committee for review and recommendation to the Board concerning proposed action to be taken concerning the complaint.

(6) Placing the complaint on the agenda for the next Board meeting for report on the status of the complaint and possible action by the Board. Possible actions by the Board would include:

- (A) a dismissal of the complaint due to lack of evidence of a code violation;
- (B) a referral to the informal process due to a finding that the results of the investigation reveal code violations, but not ones that would result in the need for denial, revocation or suspension;
- (C) a decision to hold a hearing as provided for in Section 675:3-1-4 of this Chapter;
- (D) a Consent Decree that is agreed to by the Board and the licensee.

(i) A Consent Decree that is entered into pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall appear on the Board's website and shall be reported to the appropriate national databank(s).

(ii) A Consent Decree pursuant to this subsection may be recommended to the Board as a possible action of the Board at any stage in the complaint process detailed in this subsection.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 251, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1813, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2018, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1729, eff 7-26-12]

675:3-1-3.1. Cooperation with investigations

Licensees shall cooperate when Board staff, complaint committee members, and/or investigators make inquiries concerning a complaint made against a licensee. Failure of a licensee to cooperate is a code violation.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1729, eff 7-26-12]

675:3-1-4. Procedures for denials, revocations, suspensions

(a) **When a hearing is required.** The Board shall hold a hearing when it considers that there is cause to deny a renewal of a license or, revoke or suspend any license (or specialty certification) issued by the Board or applied for in accordance with the Social Worker's Licensing Act or otherwise to discipline a licensee. The hearing will determine whether or not the person:

- (1) Has been convicted of a felony and, after investigation the Board finds that he or she has not been sufficiently rehabilitated to meet the public trust;
- (2) Has been found guilty of fraud or deceit in connection with services rendered or in establishing needed qualifications under this act;
- (3) Has knowingly aided or abetted a person, not licensed under these provisions, in representing himself or herself as licensed in this state;
- (4) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined by rules established by the Board;
- (5) Is guilty of negligence or wrongful actions in the performance of his or her duties as a social worker;
- (6) Is unable to function because of addiction to alcohol, drugs or other chemicals;
- (7) Is unable to function because of physical or mental illness;
- (8) Has disclosed confidential information without proper authority;
- (9) Has violated the security of any licensure examination materials;
- (10) Has been the subject of the revocation, suspension, surrender or other disciplinary sanction of a license in this state that is similar or related to a social worker license or of other adverse action related to a similar or related license in this state including the failure to report such adverse action to the Board within ten (10) business days of the issuance of a final order.
- (11) Has been the subject of the revocation, suspension, surrender or other disciplinary sanction of a social worker license or related or similar license or of other adverse action related to a social worker license or related or similar license in another jurisdiction or country including the failure to report such adverse action to the Board within ten (10) business days of the issuance of a final order; or
- (12) Has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction, within or without this state, as incapacitated, mentally incompetent, chemically dependent, mentally ill and dangerous to the public or a psychopathic personality

(b) **Hearing procedures.** Hearing procedures to be followed shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S., §§309-323.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 251, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1813, eff 7-1-04;
Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2018, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1729, eff 7-26-12]

CHAPTER 10. LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

[Authority: 59 O.S.Supp.1980, §§ 1250.1 through 1273; 59 O.S. Supp 2003 § 1256.1(10)]

[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

675:10-1-1. Purpose

This chapter describes the requirements for licensure.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-1.1. Approved Social Work Programs

The Board approves social work programs that are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). For international programs, a decision will be made on a case by case basis in consultation with and in conjunction with the CSWE.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-1.2. Requirements for Licensed Clinical Social Worker

The Board shall authorize the issuance of licenses to persons who qualify as follows:

- (1) Has master's degree in social work from a Board approved social work program and has a total of 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of clinical social work under professional supervision of a licensed clinical social worker which includes 3000 hours of direct client contact. Direct client contact may include any activities directly associated with the provisions of treatment for a client. Direct client contact does not include administrative activities, case management work, travel to/from meetings, training, etc. This experience shall include at least 100 hours of educational supervision by the supervisor. Ratings on the final evaluations completed by supervisor(s) must document performance at a level meeting or exceeding expectations as defined on the forms approved by the Board in all areas of evaluation,
- (2) Has passed the examination provided for under the provisions of Section 675:10-1-10, and
- (3) is of good moral character.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04;
Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12;
Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-1.3. Requirements for Licensed Masters Social Worker

The Board shall authorize the issuance of licenses to persons who qualify as follows:

- (1) Has a masters degree in social work from a Board approved social work program,
- (2) Has passed the examination provided for under the provisions of Section 675:10-1-10, and
- (3) Is of good moral character.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04;
Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-2. Requirements for Licensed Social Worker

The Board shall authorize the issuance of licenses to persons who qualify as follows:

- (1) Has master's degree in social work from a Board approved social work program and has a total of 3,000 hours of supervised experience in the practice of social work under professional supervision of a licensed clinical social worker or licensed social worker with administration specialty. This experience shall include at least 100 hours of face-to-face educational supervision by the supervisor. Ratings on the final evaluations completed by supervisor(s) must document performance at a level meeting or exceeding expectations as defined on the forms approved by the Board, in all areas of the evaluation,
- (2) Has passed the examination provided for under the provisions of Section 675:10-1-10, and
- (3) Is of good moral character.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-2.1. Requirements for Licensed Social Worker-Administration

The Board shall authorize the issuance of licenses to persons who qualify as follows:

- (1) Has master's degree in social work from a Board approved social work program and has a total of 3,000 hours of supervised experience in the administrative practice of social work under professional supervision of a licensed social worker with administration specialty. This experience shall include at least 100 hours of educational supervision by the supervisor. Ratings on the final evaluations completed by supervisor(s) must document performance at a level meeting or exceeding expectations as defined on the forms approved by the Board, in all areas of evaluation,
- (2) Has passed the examination provided for under the provisions of Section 675:10-1-10, and
- (3) Is of good moral character.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-3. Requirements for Licensed Social Work Associate

The Board shall authorize the issuance of licenses to persons who qualify as follows:

- (1) Has a bachelor's degree in social work from a Board approved social work program,
- (2) Has passed the examination provided for under the provisions of Section 675:10-1-10, and
- (3) Is of good moral character.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1324, eff 8-27-15; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-3.1. License required

No person shall engage in the practice of social work in the state of Oklahoma, as defined by law, without having the legal possession of a current social work license.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-4. Requirements for Private or Independent Social Work Practice

(a) No person may engage in the private practice of social work unless:

- (1) licensed under this act as an LCSW,
- (2) has had 100 hours of educational supervision, a total of 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience certified by the Board in the method to be offered in private practice and met the requirements set by the Board, and
- (3) continues to meet continuing education requirements set by the Board.

(b) No person may engage in the independent practice of social work unless:

- (1) licensed under this act as an LCSW, LSW-ADM or LSW,

- (2) has had 100 hours of educational supervision, a total of 3,000 hours of supervised experience certified by the Board in the method to be offered in private practice and met the requirements set by the Board, and
- (3) continues to meet continuing education requirements set by the Board.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11 (emergency); Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-5. Titles of licenses

(a) Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

- (1) **Definition.** Clinical social work is defined as set out in Section 1250.1 of Title 59 of the laws of Oklahoma.
- (2) **Setting.** Clinical social work is practiced within a private office or under the auspices of public, voluntary, or proprietary agencies and institutions addressing familial, economic, health, recreational, religious, penal, judicial and educational concerns.
- (3) **Model of clinical social work practice.** Within the practice setting, the problem is identified, and a plan of intervention is designed and implemented with the client. The plan is supported by securing historical facts and clues to the latent forces within the individual that shape personality. Individual strengths in conjunction with community resources are activated and utilized to implement the client plan. Social workers using standardized assessment tools shall observe all requirements associated with the tool prior to administering the instrument.

(b) Licensed Master's Social Worker.

- (1) **Definition.** Licensed Master's Social Worker (LMSW) is defined as set out in Section 1250.1 of Title 59 of the laws of Oklahoma.
- (2) **Setting.** A licensed master's level social worker may practice under the auspices of public, voluntary, or proprietary agencies and institutions addressing familial, economic, health, recreational, religious, penal, judicial and educational concerns.
- (3) **Model of practice.** Within the practice setting, the social worker may be involved in community organization, program planning and development, administration of community services or programs, assessment of client needs for community programs or services, coordination and/or evaluation of service delivery, advocacy on behalf of persons or groups with unmet needs, social welfare policy, organizational analysis, and, provision of training about community needs and/or problems. Social workers using standardized assessment tools shall observe all requirements associated with the tool prior to administering the instrument.
- (4) The LMSW shall not engage in the private practice of clinical social work or practice independently.

(c) Licensed Social Worker.

- (1) **Definition.** Licensed Social Worker (LSW) is defined as set out in Section 1250.1 of Title 59 of the laws of Oklahoma.
- (2) **Setting.** Social work is practiced within a private setting or under the auspices of public, voluntary or proprietary agencies or institutions addressing familial, economic, health, recreational, religious, penal, judicial and educational concerns.
- (3) **Model of practice.** Within the practice setting, provides counseling to individuals couples, families and groups directed toward specific goals.; Assists in helping individuals or groups with difficult day to day problems, such as finding employment, locating sources of assistance, or organizing community groups to work on a specific problem; Consults with other agencies on problems and cases served in common and coordinate services among agencies helping multi-problem families; conduct basic data gathering on social problems; Serves as an advocate for those clients or groups of clients whose needs are not being met by available programs or by a specific agency; Assesses, evaluates and formulate a plan of action based on client need; Provides training to community groups, agencies and other professionals about health care issues and community problems; and Maintains familiarity with professional and self-help systems in the community and will assist the client in using those services when necessary .

(4) The LSW shall not engage in the private practice of clinical social work.

(d) Licensed Social Worker-Adm.

(1) **Definition.** Licensed Social Worker-Adm (LSW-ADM) is defined as set out in Section 1250.1 of Title 59 of the laws of Oklahoma.

(2) **Setting.** Social work administration is practiced within a private setting or under the auspices of public, voluntary or proprietary agencies or institutions addressing familial, economic, health, recreational, religious, penal, judicial and educational concerns.

(3) **Model of social work administration practice.** Within the practice setting, supervises program directors and program staff to insure that personnel, program and/or licensing standards are met and maintained and that staff members grow in skill and efficiency; develops program goals and insures that all program activities and procedures comply with regulations; interprets the services and promotes the image of the programs through regular communication with appropriate groups and individuals in order to maintain a broad base of support; manages budgets to insure a balanced and fiscally sound program is maintained.

(4) The LSW-Adm shall not engage in the private practice of clinical social work.

(e) Licensed Social Worker Associate.

(1) **Definition.** Licensed Social Work Associate is defined as set out in Section 1250.1 of Title 59 of the laws of Oklahoma.

(2) **Setting.** The practice of a Licensed Social Worker Associate (LSWA) means the application of social work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics and the professional use of self to restore or enhance social, psychosocial, or biopsychosocial functioning of individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations and communities. LSWA basic generalist practice that includes assessment, planning, intervention, evaluation, case management, information and referral, counseling, consultation, education, advocacy, community organization, and the development, implementation, and administration of policies, programs and activities practices within a private setting or under the auspices of public, voluntary or proprietary agencies or institutions addressing familial, economic, health, recreational, religious, penal, judicial and educational concerns.

(3) **Model of practice.** In the practice setting, the LSWA may work with individuals, families, communities, groups and organizations. LSWA's may conduct psychosocial assessments and may take social histories and/or conduct home studies. The LSWA utilizes the basic problem-solving process of gathering information, assessing that information at a beginning professional level, developing a plan of care, then assuming the roles enumerated above, implements the plan and conducts follow-up.

(4) The LSWA shall not engage in the private practice of clinical social work or practice independently.

[Source: Amended at 14 Ok Reg 3190, eff 7-25-97; Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-11-11 (emergency); Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2411, eff 11-1-14]

675:10-1-6. Continuing education

(a) Continuing education.

(1) As a requirement for license renewal, sixteen (16) clock hours of continuing education units shall be required for each license held. These should be obtained during the previous renewal period (January through December) and approved by the Board. At least 3 hours must be categorized as ethics training as defined by the Board.

(2) Approval of continuing education shall be at the discretion of the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers and shall be in accordance with standards acceptable to the profession of social work.

(3) A licensee experiencing physical disability, illness or other extenuating circumstances may request partial or complete exemption from the continuing education requirements. The licensee shall provide supporting documentation for the Board's review. Such hardship cases will be considered by the Board on an individual basis.

(4) Continuing education requirements for licensees will be waived during the calendar year in which they passed their licensure exam.

(b) Audit/Verification.

- (1) Each applicant for renewal of license shall certify that he/she has completed the requisite hours of continuing education.
- (2) The Board staff may, each year, randomly or for cause select licensees to be audited for verification that continuing education requirements have been met.
- (3) Licensees selected for audit must submit verification of meeting the continuing education requirement with the renewal application.
- (4) Failure to submit such records shall constitute an incomplete application and shall result in the renewal application being denied, causing the license to lapse and the licensee being unable to practice.
- (5) A license renewed through misrepresentation shall result in Board action.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2411, eff 11-1-14; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-7. Exceptions to experience and examination requirements Section 675:10-1-7. Exceptions to experience and examination requirements [REVOKED]

[Source: Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-8. Issuance of license

The Board will issue an appropriate license to all applicants who meet the requirements for licensure in order to identify the social workers to the public as a LCSW, LMSW, LSW, LSW-Adm or LSWA.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-9. Form of application

(a) Applicants for licensure as a LCSW, LMSW, LSW, LSW-Adm or LSWA shall make such application using the most current form and format prescribed by the Board, shall submit the required fee and shall supply documentation as required by the Board to validate the facts which are claimed as a part of the licensing process. Such items may include but not be limited to:

- (1) an official transcript
- (2) Photograph taken within the last 12 months
- (3) a state and national criminal history record check using background check process approved by the Board
- (4) verification of supervision, as applicable
- (5) an official score transfer from the Association of Social Work Boards, as applicable
- (6) a verification of licensure from another state, as applicable
- (7) an affidavit of legal status confirming US citizenship or qualified legal alien status

(b) The fee for the national criminal history record check shall be paid separately from the license application fee by the applicant.

(c) The use of false or fraudulent information by an applicant may be grounds for denial of a license.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-10. Examinations

(a) The Board accepts the following licensure examinations administered by the ASWB:

- (1) Basic or Bachelors
- (2) Intermediate or Master
- (3) Advanced or Advanced Generalist
- (4) Clinical

(b) Upon approval by the Board to take the examination and issuance of a one-time provisional license, the applicant may apply through the ASWB to sit for the examination.

(c) From the date of issuance of the provisional license, the applicant has one year to obtain a passing score on the ASWB exam. In the event of failure to pass the examination, the applicant may retake the examination every ninety (90) days during the year the provisional license is valid. If the applicant fails the exam by a 10-point margin or less, the applicant may appeal to the ASWB for a waiver of the 90-day waiting period. If an applicant's provisional license is revoked pursuant to Section 1261.5 of the Social Workers Licensing Act, the license application shall be voided, and the applicant must reapply, including approval of the Board, application and applicable fees, prior to retaking the examination.

[Source: Amended at 9 Ok Reg 3345, eff 7-27-92; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 35, eff 11-1-11; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-11. Non-residence

Persons not residing in Oklahoma may apply for, receive and renew a license provided they otherwise meet the requirements and submit appropriate documentation to the Board. However, their reasons for desiring licensure in Oklahoma must be documented and the Board will assume no responsibility for their licensure except when such practice occurs within the State of Oklahoma.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-12. Fees Section 675:10-1-12. Fees [REVOKED]

[Source: Amended at 14 Ok Reg 3190, eff 7-25-97; Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-12.1. Renewal of licenses

- (a) All licenses expire at the end of each calendar year and shall be subject to renewal on the first day of the next calendar year.
- (b) All licensees must complete licensure renewal application using the online licensee portal system. Mailed renewal applications will not be accepted by the Board except where extreme extenuating circumstances exist as determined by the Executive Director.
- (c) Licenses will lapse on the last day of the calendar year. Such lapsed licenses may be renewed upon receipt of a complete renewal application and payment of the renewal fee plus a late fee as set forth in 675:1-1-9 if submitted within ninety (90) days from the first day of the new calendar year. Licensees renewed after December 31 of the calendar year will be assessed the late renewal fee. Social workers renewing their license January 1 through March 31 must provide verification of continuing education.

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Added at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1732, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-13. Lapsed licenses

Licenses lapsed beyond the ninety (90) day period from the first day of the new calendar year will lapse with no option to renew. A new application must be submitted with appropriate documentation as required by the Board. All current requirements, including re-examination, must be met by the applicant.

[Source: Amended at 9 Ok Reg 3345, eff 7-27-92; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-13.1. Addition of specialty to license Section 675:10-1-13.1. Addition of specialty to license [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 9 Ok Reg 3345, eff 7-27-92; Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-14. Previous registration allowing licensure Section 675:10-1-14. Previous registration allowing licensure [REVOKED]

[Source: Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-15. Reciprocity - Endorsement

(a) Any person who becomes a resident of Oklahoma and who is immediately preceding residency in Oklahoma, licensed in good standing to practice social work by another state which grants a like privilege or reciprocity and who meets the educational and work experience qualifications for licensure in Oklahoma may, upon payment of the necessary fee and submission of documentation as required by the Board, be licensed under these provisions.

(b) Reciprocity - endorsement shall be based upon an evaluation of the licensing criteria of the other state to determine if criteria is equal to or more stringent than Oklahoma licensing requirements.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-16. Provisional license

Persons who have met all qualifications for licensure under the provisions of this Chapter, except passage of the required examination, shall, upon payment of the necessary fee and submission of documentation as required by the Board, be issued a provisional license as provided in 59 O.S., §1261.5. A provisional license will only be issued once and may not be issued for longer than one year.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:10-1-16.1. Complaint procedure Section 675:10-1-16.1. Complaint procedure [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 9 Ok Reg 3345, eff 7-27-92; Amended at 14 Ok Reg 3190, eff 7-25-97; Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1632, eff 5-27-99; Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-17. Procedures for denials, revocations, suspensions Section 675:10-1-17. Procedures for denials, revocations, suspensions [REVOKED]

[Source: Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 253, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1816, eff 7-1-04]

675:10-1-18. Facility Section 675:10-1-18. Facility [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 14 Ok Reg 3190, eff 7-25-97; Revoked at 25 Ok Reg 2020, eff 6-26-08]

CHAPTER 12. GUIDELINES FOR SUPERVISION

[Authority: 59 O.S., §§ 1250.1 through 1273]
[Source: Codified 5-27-99]

675:12-1-1. Purpose

This Chapter establishes the guidelines for the documentation of supervised experience that must be received from all persons applying for social work licensure.

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99]

675:12-1-2. Supervision

- (a) **Licensed clinical social worker.** The minimum 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience must be under the supervision of a social worker holding the LCSW license.
- (b) **Licensed master social worker.** No supervision is required for the LMSW.
- (c) **Licensed social worker.** The minimum 3,000 hours of supervised experience must be under the supervision of a social worker holding the LCSW, LSW-ADM or LSW license.
- (d) **Licensed social worker with a specialty of administration.** The minimum 3,000 hours of supervised experience must be under the supervision of a social worker holding the LSW-ADM license.
- (e) **Licensed social worker associate.** No supervision is required for the LSWA.

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04;
Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2024, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1325, eff 8-27-15;
Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:12-1-3. Supervision and the Licensed Social Worker Section 675:12-1-3. Supervision and the Licensed Social Worker [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04]

675:12-1-3.1. Supervision and the Licensed Clinical Social Worker Section 675:12-1-3.1. Supervision and the Licensed Clinical Social Worker [EXPIRED]

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 through 7-14-04 (emergency)¹]

EDITOR'S NOTE:

EDITOR'S NOTE: ¹This emergency action expired without being superseded by a permanent action. Upon expiration of an emergency action enacting a new Section, the Section is no longer effective. Therefore, on 7-15-04 (after the 7-14-04 expiration of this emergency action), Section 675:12-1-3.1 was no longer effective. For the official text of the emergency rule that was in effect from 11-14-03 through 7-14-04, see 21 Ok Reg 265.

675:12-1-3.2. Supervision and the Licensed Clinical Social Worker-ADM Section 675:12-1-3.2. Supervision and the Licensed Clinical Social Worker-ADM [EXPIRED]

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 through 7-14-04 (emergency) ¹]

EDITOR'S NOTE:

EDITOR'S NOTE: ¹This emergency action expired without being superseded by a permanent action. Upon expiration of an emergency action enacting a new Section, the Section is no longer effective. Therefore, on 7-15-04 (after the 7-14-04 expiration of this emergency action), Section 675:12-1-3.2 was no longer effective. For the official text of the emergency rule that was in effect from 11-14-03 through 7-14-04, see 21 Ok Reg 265.

675:12-1-3.3. Supervision and the Licensed Masters Social Worker Section 675:12-1-3.3. Supervision and the Licensed Masters Social Worker [EXPIRED]

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 through 7-14-04 (emergency) ¹]

EDITOR'S NOTE:

EDITOR'S NOTE: ¹This emergency action expired without being superseded by a permanent action. Upon expiration of an emergency action enacting a new Section, the Section is no longer effective. Therefore, on 7-15-04 (after the 7-14-04 expiration of this emergency action), Section 675:12-1-3.3 was no longer effective. For the official text of the emergency rule that was in effect from 11-14-03 through 7-14-04, see 21 Ok Reg 265.

675:12-1-4. Supervision and private or independent practice

- (a) Engaging in the private practice of social work requires holding the LCSW license.
- (b) Engaging in the independent practice of social work requires holding the LCSW, LSW-Adm or LSW license.

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 38, eff 11-1-11; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1736, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:12-1-5. Supervision and specific licensure Section 675:12-1-5. Supervision and specific licensure [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04]

675:12-1-6. Board Approved Supervisors

(a) **Requirements.** The 3,000 hour supervisory requirement for specialty certification contracted external to the agency must be under the supervision of a Board Approved Supervisor. A Board approved social worker with one of the specialty certifications presently recognized by the Board does not automatically qualify as a Board Approved Supervisor. The knowledge, experience, and skill base of a Board Approved Supervisor exceeds the minimum requirements for specialty certification. Applicants for a Board Approved Supervisor shall:

- (1) Submit an application on the most current forms provided by the Board.
- (2) Be a Licensed Social Worker with the title licensure in the same method as supervisor status is sought.
- (3) Have at least five (5) years of full time work experience (or equivalent) beyond the master's degree in social work. Three of these five years must be full time work experience (or equivalent) in the specialty that supervisory status is sought.
- (4) Have at least two years of clinical and/or administrative supervisory work experience following completion of the master's degree in social work. Clinical and/or administrative work experience is qualified as having supervised an individual for licensure eligibility. Employment supervision and supervising practicum students does not qualify as clinical or administrative supervisory experience.
- (5) Have two (2) letters of reference submitted to the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers. At least one letter shall be from a licensed social worker holding the same licensure title and shall address supervisory skills.

(b) **Approved supervisor status.** Board approved supervisor status remains in effect contingent upon the following:

- (1) Maintaining a current license in good standing;
- (2) Completing supervisor training sponsored or approved by the Board, within one year of approval and at least every three years thereafter and maintaining compliance with the minimum supervision expectations. Documentation of such participation will be furnished to the Board and will be updated periodically as required by the Board.
- (3) The supervisory status may be suspended or terminated by the Board if the supervisor fails to provide adequate supervision to a supervisee.
- (4) A supervisor may not be related within the second degree by affinity (marriage) or within the third degree by consanguinity (blood or adoption) to the person they are supervising.

(c) **Minimum supervision expectations.**

- (1) A supervisee may not engage in private or independent practice while under supervision. A supervisee may not do contract work for an employer as a non-clinically licensed social worker.
- (2) A supervisee seeking clinical licensure shall not assign a clinical diagnosis independent of their clinical supervisor to a client for which they are providing services.
- (3) A supervisee must complete 3,000 hours of post graduate practice experience under the supervision of a licensed social worker with the same social work practice specialty. Supervisees seeking clinical licensure must have at least 3,000 hours of direct client contact. Direct client contact may include any activities directly associated with the provisions of treatment for a client. Direct client contact does not include administrative activities, case management work, travel to/from meetings, training, etc. For supervisees working 20 hours or more per week, the supervisee must receive no less than an average of one continuous hour per week of supervision for a minimum of 100 hours. The maximum period between educational supervision meetings is two weeks, in which case the supervisor and supervisee must meet for two hours. For supervisees working 19 hours or less per week, the supervisee must meet

with their supervisor at minimum of once every two weeks for one hour. Group supervision is acceptable if such supervision does not exceed at least one-half of the total supervisory time per evaluation period. Group supervision is defined as educational supervision conducted with more than one supervisee by a licensed social worker with appropriate certification in the specialty sought by supervisees, or a Board Approved Supervisor with appropriate certification in specialty sought by supervisees. The group should be limited in size to no more than 4 supervisees.

(4) A contract will be negotiated by the supervisor and supervisee and must be submitted to the to the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers prior to beginning supervision. Supervision contracts must be submitted online using the agency approved submission format. Any supervision completed prior to approval of the supervision contract will not be accepted. A contract shall not be valid if the supervisor and supervisee have a relationship that could affect the employment or benefits of the supervisor, and that relationship could, in any way, bias or compromise the supervisor's evaluation of the supervisee. Should the contract be terminated before completion of the minimum number of hours required, the supervisee is responsible for negotiating a new contract and obtaining all evaluation and termination forms required to document prior supervision. The supervisee shall notify the Board within 30 days of any job change and submit a new job description.

(5) There will be a minimum of three (3) periodic written evaluation periods:

(A) no less than a total of 25 hours of supervision

(B) no less than a total of 50 hours of supervision

(C) no less than a total of 100 hours of supervision

(D) submission of all evaluation forms are the responsibility of the supervisee and are due within thirty (30) days of each of the reporting periods.

(E) supervisees terminating their supervision for any reason must complete and submit all evaluation forms and termination records within thirty (30) days of termination.

(6) Evaluations will be provided by the supervisee or supervisor to the Board office. At the Board's discretion, failure to comply with reporting requirements stated herein may result in the loss of supervisory hours.

(7) If supervision is terminated by either party, either the supervisee or supervisor is responsible for notifying the Board and completing a termination form. Such termination form must be received by the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers within 14 days of the termination.

(8) If there is any question regarding the supervisee's competency, the supervisor is free to ask for a sample of supervisee's work.

(9) It is required that all supervisors for licensure participate in supervision training sponsored or approved by the Board at a minimum of once every three years. Documentation of such participation will be furnished the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers and will be updated periodically as required by the Board.

(10) When the proposed supervisor is not a staff member of the supervisee's agency, social work ethics demand the proposed supervisor ensure the agency administration (or its representative) is in accord with the arrangements for supervision by a qualified supervisor. This is essential whether these arrangements are made by the agency or the supervisee and regardless of whether the agency contributes to financial compensation of the supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for securing agreement from the agency administration as to the purpose and content of the desired supervision and the supervisor's specific role responsibilities and limitations. The supervisor is also responsible for learning agency functions and policies so that any supervisory suggestions are constructive and realistic within agency purposes and resources.

(11) Supervision from a Board Approved Supervisor may be contracted from outside the agency should internal supervision be unavailable.

(12) All supervisors will adhere to the guidelines on supervision required by the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers.

(13) Supervision paperwork submitted six months outside the above-mentioned timeframes will not be accepted and the hours will not be granted.

(d) Licensees supervising within their agency must have a minimum of two years' work experience after passage of the proper licensure exam in order to be eligible to supervise individuals for licensure.

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 22 Ok Reg 351, eff 12-20-04 (emergency); Amended at 22 Ok Reg 1506, eff 6-11-05; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2024, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1736, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:12-1-7. Requirements for Board Approved Supervisor Section 675:12-1-7. Requirements for Board Approved Supervisor [REVOKED]

[Source: Added at 16 Ok Reg 1638, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 265, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1828, eff 7-1-04]

675:12-1-8. Out of state supervision

Social workers seeking to transfer their licensure supervision will be required to provide documentation of supervision hours from the previous jurisdiction to assure the hours accrued conform to the requirements for social work supervision as outlined in the Oklahoma Social Work Practice Act. The Board may review documentation of supervision hours from other jurisdictions on a case by case basis.

[Source: Added at 29 Ok Reg 1736, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

CHAPTER 15. GUIDELINES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

[Authority: 59 O.S. Supp. 1980, §§ 1250.1 through 1273; 59 O.S. Supp 2003 § 1256.1(10)]
[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

675:15-1-1. Purpose

This Chapter describes the requirements for continuing education for all licensed social workers with specialty certification(s).

675:15-1-2. Introduction

The Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers will recognize all continuing education activities provided and approved through ASWB or ASWB jointly accredited providers, National Association of Social Workers national or state chapters, National Board for Certified Counselors, American Psychological Association, American Medical Association, other state social work licensing agencies, academic institutions, providers approved by the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers, Oklahoma State Board of Behavioral Health and the Oklahoma Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counseling Board, or any other reputable CE provider approved by the Board.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 267, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1830, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2025, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1739, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2413, eff 11-1-14; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:15-1-2.1. Audit of continuing education Section 675:15-1-2.1. Audit of continuing education [EXPIRED]

[Source: Added at 21 Ok Reg 267, eff 11-14-03 through 7-14-04 (emergency)]
EDITOR'S NOTE:

EDITOR'S NOTE: ¹This emergency action expired without being superseded by a permanent action. Upon expiration of an emergency action enacting a new Section, the Section is no longer effective. Therefore, on 7-15-04 (after the 7-14-04 expiration of this emergency action), Section 675:15-1-2.1 was no longer effective. For the official text of the emergency rule that was in effect from 11-14-03 through 7-14-04, see 21 Ok Reg 265.

675:15-1-3. Continuing education standards

(a) **Continuing education hours.** The number of hours specified for each social work license specialty title is 16 clock hours of verified continuing education per specialty per licensing period. Any individual holding more

than one license is required to obtain 6 additional hours of continuing education credit for each additional license. Dual licensees should seek continuing education credits that reflect the nature of their licensures and scope of their practices. All licensees must receive a total of 3 hours of ethics training as defined by the Board. For individuals who have more than one license, ethics training can be obtained for either specialty. As specified in the Oklahoma Social Worker's Licensing Act, the license must be renewed no later than the end of each calendar year.

(b) **Categorical learning activities.** It shall be the responsibility of the individual social worker to choose his/her own continuing education program. The continuing education experience may be organized into three main categories. .

(1) **Category I - Formally Organized Learning Events.** Category I includes formally organized learning events, involving face to face or live webinar interaction with a teacher for the purpose of accomplishing specific learning objectives. Examples include courses, workshops, practice oriented seminars, and training offered by accredited programs of social work education, and live, interactive, video conferencing by an approved program. The Verification of Attendance form for each training event should be retained by the licensee.

(2) **Category II - Professional Meetings.** Category II includes professional meetings on the national, state and local levels. Events in this category involve formally structured discussions among professionals about professional issues, whereby participants increase their awareness of new developments in social work and related fields. Documentation of Category II is the same as described for Category I in (1) of this subsection.

(3) **Category III - Individual Professional Activities.** Category III consists of a variety of self-directed professional study activities and growth experiences. Examples include viewing recorded webinars, asynchronous activities, writing papers and books for presentation or publication; making presentations on major professional issues or programs; teaching or training assignments, engaging in research, correspondence work, televised courses, audio/visual videotapes and other forms of self-study upon approval by the Board, shown to update or enhance competence in social work practice. Social workers/teachers whose primary job responsibilities include designing new courses will be allowed to receive continuing education credit hours. Specifically, when a social worker/teacher engages in the initial preparation of a course he/she will be awarded continuing education hours commensurate to the number of semester hours of the course. If a quarter system is utilized, credit for quarter hours will be allowed utilizing the ratio of 3 quarter hours to 2 semester hours. Inherent in the nature of Category III experiences is the expectation that an individual will spend a greater number of clock hours in a self-directed activity than he/she will receive actual continuing education credit.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1640, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 267, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1830, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2025, eff 6-26-08; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1739, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:15-1-4. Content of continuing education learning activities

(a) In ascertaining appropriate areas of learning content in Category I, II and III events, the following methods are substantive topical organizers for continuing education activities.

(1) **Direct methods.**

- (A) Individual Counseling
- (B) Psychotherapy
- (C) Family Treatment
- (D) Group Work
- (E) Community Organization (Social Action, Social Planning and Social Development)
- (F) Specialized Services and Treatment

(2) **Indirect methods.**

- (A) Administration and Management
- (B) Supervision
- (C) Consultation
- (D) Social Planning
- (E) Policy Development

- (F) Teaching and Educational Methods
- (G) Research
- (H) Social Problems
- (I) Advocacy
- (J) Specialized Services

(b) Specific content areas as they relate to license titles would include:

(1) **Licensed Clinical Social Worker.** Development of specific value, knowledge and skills in the following areas: human development, psychodynamics, human relations, personality development, crisis intervention, psychopathology, group dynamics, family dynamics, interactive effect of biological functioning on the client system, interactive effect of psychosocial functioning on the client system, assessing client system dysfunction, assessing personality function/dysfunction, appropriate selection of intervention strategies and techniques, integration of theory and practice skills, appropriate timing and use of termination, use of evaluation, use of supervision, capacity to engage in self-regulated clinical practice and understanding and commitment to the Code of Professional Conduct.

(2) **Licensed Social Worker-Adm.** Development of specific value, knowledge and skills in the following areas: organizational theory, policy development, program management, personnel management, fiscal management, public relations, program planning, program evaluation, delegation, communication (verbal and nonverbal), directing activities, decision making, appropriate use of consultation, assisting the community group to articulate needs and problems, helping community residents develop the organizational capacity necessary for effective social action, establishing positive and productive relationships with leadership people at a variety of levels, understanding and support of social welfare programs, understanding of community dynamics and power structure, bringing together disparate citizen groups and social agencies in a working relationship, translating community concerns into remedial action, increasing motivation and participation of community residents in problem solving activities, negotiating with citizens groups and community agencies, effecting change in intergroup relationships, use of supervision to enhance professional growth in functioning and commitment to the Code of Professional Conduct.

[Source: Amended at 21 Ok Reg 267, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1830, eff 7-1-04; Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

675:15-1-5. Information to providers of continuing education

(a) When planning a continuing education activity for social workers, the provider needs to consider six essential program elements. The guidelines that follow delineate those elements and establish respective professional expectations of providers. The licensed social worker, in turn, can use these guidelines as the basis for inquiry about a provider's qualifications, leading to better decisions about which offerings to pursue.

(1) **Program development.** Adequate and responsive continuing education program development requires interaction among sponsoring administrators, the instructor or educational leader, and potential social work consumers. The provider needs to involve social workers in the identification of learning needs, in the selection and development of educational events to meet those needs, and in the establishment of appropriate evaluation mechanisms. Involvement of social workers with content expertise and an understanding of the educational objectives are recommended as well.

(2) **Program content.** Continuing education events for social workers should clearly relate to social work practice, theory, and methodology; to the level of social work education; to social policy; or to administration, planning, and research related to human services. As a guide for participation, learning objectives and content designed to meet those objectives should be specified for each event. The way in which the content will meet the learning needs of social workers also should be made clear. Such information should be provided on promotional materials or upon request.

(3) **Participants.** Selection of participants for continuing education events must not discriminate by reason of gender, age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, physical abilities, or other characteristics. Promotional materials should clearly state the educational level of the social worker as well as any prerequisites for whom the event is targeting.

(4) **Program format and instructional methodology.** The provider should be able to demonstrate that the format and methods selected for continuing education were influenced by contemporary adult

learning theory; the identified learning needs of the participants; and the learning objectives, the educational content, and the size and composition of the participant group. Methodologies need to be diverse and encourage the active participation of the learner in the educational process. A variety of teaching techniques should be considered; any assignments, such as readings or structured exercises, should be related to the conceptual content, and any audio-visual resources should be used in a planned manner.

(5) Qualified instruction. The sponsor of a continuing education event must make sure that the instructor, speaker, or educational leader is qualified. Individual providers have responsibility for offering only those events for which they are qualified. Specific qualifications include:

- (A) competence in the subject matter as determined by a combination of two of the following:
 - (i) license, registration or certificate in an area related to the course subject matter;
 - (ii) master's or higher degree in an area related to the course subject matter;
 - (iii) training, certification or teaching experience in subject matter related to the course subject matter;
 - (iv) at least two years' experience in an area related to the course subject matter.
- (B) ability to transmit the educational content to the participants' understanding of continuing education objectives
- (C) knowledge and skill in instructional methodology, learning processes, and the use of emotionally laden material
- (D) capacity for self-evaluation and modification of future offerings in response to evaluations conducted by self, sponsor, and participants
- (E) maintenance of an appropriate certification, credential, or license for subject matter.

(6) Program evaluation. Formal evaluation of each continuing education event is essential for maintaining or improving the quality and effectiveness of future events. Measures of evaluation need to be established during the planning phase and linked directly with the event's learning objectives. Two distinct but related measures of evaluation may be appropriate. The first is the instructor's, sponsor's, and participants' assessment of the event with respect to content, format, methodology, instruction, and facilities. The second is assessment of the knowledge acquired by participants and is based on:

- (A) demonstration of a taught skill
- (B) an oral or written test
- (C) a project or report
- (D) a self-assessment checklist
- (E) another instrument designed to collect data on changes in participant knowledge or performance attributed to the educational experience. The instructor and sponsor together should review the evaluation outcome and revise subsequent events accordingly.

(b) The form to verify continuing education activity must contain the following information:

- (1) Program name or title
- (2) Instructor(s) or Presenter(s)
- (3) Date
- (4) Number of clock hours of program
- (5) Format in which the activity was provided

(c) Approved continuing education providers are noted in 675: 15-1-2 of this section. For continuing education providers not listed in :675: 15-1-2 of this section, the Board will offer non-approved providers the opportunity to become approved providers by submitting the most current application form(s) provided by the Board along with the fee as set forth in 675:1-1-9. The Board may audit approved providers at any time.

(d) Upon notice of approval of a continuing education application, the provider may designate this status on their brochure along with the provider number issued by the Board.

(e) A licensee may request approval of a program or event by submitting the most current application form(s) provided by the Board along with the fee as set forth in 675:1-1-9. Approval will be restricted to the individual licensee making application.

675:15-1-6. Suggested criteria for accepting category I and II continuing education events Section 675:15-1-6. Suggested criteria for accepting category I and II continuing education events [REVOKED]

[Source: Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 267, eff 11-14-03 (emergency); Revoked at 21 Ok Reg 1830, eff 7-1-04]

675:15-1-7. Suggested criteria for accepting category III continuing education activities

Specific hours of continuing education clock hours will be awarded for the completion of various self-directed activities, specifically:

- (1) Completion of an article in a referred journal – 6 hours
- (2) Publication of an article in a referred journal – 4 hours
- (3) Publication of an article in a non-referred journal – 2 hours
- (4) Presentation of paper at a national meeting – 3 hours
- (5) Presentation of paper at a state/regional meeting – 2 hours
- (6) Teaching or training assignments: Continuing education clock hours will be awarded commensurate to the actual amount of time spent teaching or training. A maximum of 6 hours will be awarded.
- (7) Completion of a research project using appropriate methodology. Specifically, the project must demonstrate a definition of the problem, research design, data collection methods, data analysis and completion of the research report. – 5 hours

[Source: Amended at 42 Ok Reg, Number 21, effective 7-25-25]

CHAPTER 20. CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

[Authority: 59 O.S., §§ 1250.1 through 1273]

[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

675:20-1-1. Purpose

The rules of this chapter are intended to define unprofessional conduct in the context of the rendering of social work services within the meaning of 59 O.S., Section 1266.1 (A)(1) and to establish norms of professional conduct for social workers.

[Source: Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2415, eff 11-1-14]

675:20-1-2. Statutory citations

Citations to statutes in the rules of this chapter refer to the most recent codification of the statute.

675:20-1-3. Definitions

The following words or terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Social worker" means any person licensed by the Board of Licensed Social Workers and includes licensed master's social workers, licensed social workers with administration specialty, licensed social workers, licensed social work associates and licensed clinical social workers.

[Source: Amended at 25 Ok Reg 2026, eff 6-26-08]

675:20-1-4. Social worker's ethical responsibility to clients

(a) Social workers shall not exploit their professional relationships with clients (or former clients), supervisees, students, employees, or research participants, sexually or otherwise for personal or business advantage. Social workers shall not condone or engage in sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as deliberate or repeated comments, gestures, or physical contacts of a sexual nature that are unwanted by the recipient.

(b) The social worker shall not solicit the clients of one's agency for private practice.

(c) The social worker shall terminate service to clients, and professional relationships with them, when such service and relationships are no longer required or in which a conflict of interest arises.

- (d) A social worker shall not engage in any sexual act with a client or with a person who has been a client.
- (e) The client/social worker relationship shall be presumed to exist for a period of six months after the termination of services except where circumstances such as, but not limited to, selection of a new therapist shows otherwise.
- (f) A social worker shall give precedence to his/her professional responsibility over personal interests.
- (g) A social worker shall not commit fraud and shall not represent that he/she performed services which the social worker did not perform.
- (h) The social worker shall not divide a fee or accept or give anything of value for receiving or making a referral.
- (i) The social worker shall provide clients at the beginning of service accurate and complete information regarding the extent and nature of the services available to them, to include fees and manner of payment.

[Source: Amended at 35 Ok Reg 2031, eff 11-1-18]

675:20-1-5. Social worker's conduct and comportment as a social worker

- (a) The social worker shall not participate in or condone fraud or any other misrepresentation. The social worker shall not misrepresent professional qualifications, education, experience, affiliations, or services performed.
- (b) The social worker shall not practice, condone, facilitate or collaborate with any form of discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical handicap, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or status.
- (c) A social worker shall not repeatedly fail to keep scheduled appointments.
- (d) The social worker who anticipates the termination or interruption of service to clients shall notify clients promptly and seek the transfer, referral, or continuation of service in relation to the clients' needs and preferences.
- (e) The social worker shall respect the privacy of clients and hold in confidence all information obtained in the course of professional service except for the client's voluntary consent for release of information; in case of death or disability, with the written consent of a personal representative, other person authorized to sue, or the beneficiary of an insurance policy on the person's life, health or physical condition; when the person waives the privilege by bringing any public charges against the licensee; and for compelling reasons. Compelling reasons shall be defined as but not limited to:
 - (1) consultation with another professional on behalf of the client;
 - (2) duty to warn;
 - (3) child abuse and sexual molestation;
 - (4) any other situation in accordance with statutory requirements.
- (f) The social worker shall obtain informed consent of clients before taping, recording, or permitting third party observation of their activities.
- (g) Any social worker who violates any provision of the Code of Professional Conduct of this chapter shall be subject to disciplinary action as provided in the Social Worker's Licensing Act, and specifically 59 O.S. 1981, Section 1266.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1642, eff 5-27-99]

675:20-1-6. Social Workers Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers as approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly and revised by the 2017 Delegate Assembly is hereby adopted in its entirety as an addition to the existing Code of Professional Conduct of the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 3961, eff 10-1-97 through 7-14-98 (emergency); Added at 16 Ok Reg 1642, eff 5-27-99; Amended at 29 Ok Reg 1741, eff 7-26-12; Amended at 35 Ok Reg 2031, eff 11-1-18]

CHAPTER 25. POST-MILITARY SERVICE OCCUPATION, EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALING RULES

[Authority: 59 O.S. § 1256.1(A)(10); 59 O.S., §§ 4100.1 et seq.]

[Source: Codified 11-1-14]

675:25-1-1. Education, training and experience completed as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant to 59 O.S. § 4100.4(A)

If an applicant otherwise qualifies for licensure, the Board shall issue an appropriate license to applicants who present satisfactory evidence of equivalent education, training and experience completed by the applicant as a member of the Armed Forces or Reserves of the United States, National Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval Militias of any state.

[Source: Added at 31 Ok Reg 2415, eff 11-1-14]

675:25-1-2. Automatic extension of license, payment of fees and continuing education for active-duty military service members

(a) **Automatic extension pursuant to 59 O.S. § 4100.6(A).** The license of active-duty military service members shall be automatically extended and placed on inactive licensure status during active-duty military service and for one (1) year after active-duty military service, unless the licensee seeks to maintain said license in good-standing.

(b) **Payment of fees and continuing education pursuant to 59 O.S. § 4100.6(B), (C) and (D).** Active-duty military service members seeking to maintain his or her license in good-standing may have his or her license renewed during active-duty, and for a period of one (1) year after discharge from active-duty, without:

(1) payment of fees; and

(2) obtaining continuing education credits when:

(A) circumstances associated with military duty prevent obtaining training and a waiver request has been submitted to the Board;

(B) the licensee performs social work as an occupation as part of his or her military duties as shown in Defense Department Form DD 214 (DD Form 214); or

(C) performing any other act typically required for the renewal of the license.

[Source: Added at 31 Ok Reg 2415, eff 11-1-14]

675:25-1-3. Reciprocal licensing of spouses of active-duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States

The procedure to expedite endorsement of licensure pursuant to Section 4100.5 of Title 59 of the laws of the State of Oklahoma for applicants who are licensed in another state and who are the spouse of an active-duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States is as follows:

(1) A license shall be issued to the applicant if the requirements for licensure of the other state are substantially equivalent to those required by this state;

(2) If specific licensure requirements in this state were not required in the state in which the Applicant was licensed, a temporary license for a set period of time shall be issued to Applicants to allow the person to work as a social worker while completing those requirements.

[Source: Added at 31 Ok Reg 2415, eff 11-1-14]

675:25-1-4. Guard Advocacy Program (GAP) for Oklahoma National Guard soldiers and airmen

Pursuant to Title 63 Section 2059, the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers will serve in an advisory capacity to the State Regents of Higher Education, the Oklahoma Military Department and the Oklahoma Schools of Social Work toward the development of curricula designed to improve access to community resources that improve health outcomes for Oklahoma's National Guard soldiers and airmen.

[Source: Added at 35 Ok Reg 2032, eff 11-1-18]