



## NC Social Work Certification and Licensure Board

September 2005

# Legislative Update

The Board is providing this special edition brief in response to recent changes in the Statutes and Rules governing social work practice in North Carolina. Of specific concern to many individuals will be the changes to supervision requirements for Provisionally Licensed Clinical Social Workers (P-LCSW) and the increased requirement for ethics focused continuing education activity. This brief is designed to provide a synopsis of the changes and how they impact social work practice. It should not be considered a substitute for the actual changes. Please review the "What's New" section on the Board's website at [www.ncswboard.org](http://www.ncswboard.org) or request a copy of the full text from the Administrative Office.

### CHANGES IN STATUTE

G.S. § 90B-6 is amended by adding the following new subsection to read:

"(j) The Board shall have the power to employ or retain professional personnel, including legal counsel, subject to G.S. 114-2-3, or clerical or other special personnel deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter.

### CHANGES IN N.C. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

#### N.C.A.C. 63.0210 - PROVISIONAL LICENSES

- All provisional licensees must submit a written emergency crisis plan to the Board demonstrating that they have immediate access to a licensed mental health professional that will provide the clinical consultation in the event of a crisis with a client. This documentation should be submitted immediately by all practicing provisional licensees and prior to engaging in clinical practice for all newly issued provisional licensees.
- Provides clarification that provisional licensees must maintain supervision of their clinical practice until such time as they are granted LCSW licensure (not just until the minimum requirements are met).
- Appropriate supervision (as stipulated in NCAC 63.0211) now requires that the supervisor be a LCSW with a masters or higher degree in social work and two years post LCSW clinical experience.

#### N.C.A.C. 63.0211 - WORK EXPERIENCE

##### For the LCSW credential:

- Provides clarification that the supervisor must be a MSW who is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with an additional two years of clinical social work experience post LCSW licensure. (IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS – LCSW licensees currently providing supervision to P-LCSW licensees should not take on any additional supervisees until this requirement is satisfied. P-LCSW licensees currently receiving supervision from an LCSW who does not meet this requirement may continue receiving supervision; however any change in supervision or addition of a new supervisor after 11/1/05 requires that the new supervisor satisfy the current requirement for two years of post LCSW clinical practice experience.)
- Provides clarification that a maximum of 25 hours of group supervision will be considered toward satisfying the minimum requirement of 100 hours of supervision.

##### For the CSWM credential:

- Provides clarification that a maximum of 50 hours of group supervision will be considered toward satisfying the minimum requirement of 100 hours of supervision.

N.C.A.C. 63.0305 – REVIEW OF EXAMINATIONS BY UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

- Revisions to this code were made primarily to reflect changes in the Board's agreement with the examining body used by the Board.

N.C.A.C. 63.0401 – CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- Provides clarification of credit received for auditing academic courses to reflect allowance for clock hours of actual attendance during which instruction was given.
- Provides a listing of what activities are approved for continuing education and what activities are not considered acceptable for continuing education credit.
- Reflects an increase in the ethics requirement to reflect a minimum of four (4) hours of ethics focused training now required during each renewal cycle and clarifies that such training shall focus on ethics as it relates to social work practice and ethical decision-making. (IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS – This change will affect all individuals whose certificate/license expires on or after 06/30/06, and those individuals whose certificate/license has already expired, regardless of practice status.)

N.C.A.C. 63.0405 – REQUIRED REPORTING BY LICENSEE OF CHANGES TO BOARD

- This is a new code added to mandate the reporting of certain information to this Board. Specifically, all licensees must notify the Board in writing of a change in contact information, to include name, address (residence and business) and telephone numbers (residence and business); and to report to the Board the disposition in any criminal matter in which the licensee is a defendant. Reporting shall be done within thirty days of the effective date, and failure to do so shall constitute a violation of this Board's Ethical Guidelines.

N.C.A.C. 63.0501 – PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- Provides clarification of what constitutes scope of practice for the profession of social work by defining intervention methods to include case management, advocacy, community organization, administration, and psychotherapy.
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