

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

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The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) was formed in 1955 as the result of a merger of seven separate professional social work organizations. With more than 150,000 members in 55 chapters, NASW is the largest social work organization in the world. The NASW national office is in Washington, DC, and the North Carolina Chapter office is in Raleigh (telephone: 919-828-1341). Information about NASW, including membership forms can be found by visiting their website at: [www.naswdc.org](http://www.naswdc.org)

The principal functions of NASW include provision of membership services, establishment of professional standards, provision of professional development activities, and professional action. The national staff directory lobbies at the federal level on issues related to the social work profession and the clients served by social workers.

Students in the School are entitled to full rights and privileges in NASW through a student membership. Members participate at all levels of the association. A graduate student is elected to membership on the National board of Directors and to the Board of Directors of each chapter of NASW. NASW members work through their local chapters to enhance social work practice and to lobby for beneficial change in professional standards, social policy, salary levels, and other concerns. Some of the membership benefits for students include:

- Subscriptions to the journal Social Work and the NASW News, a monthly publication that includes job listings;
- Complimentary registration to the NASW Annual conference as on-site volunteer;
- Subscription to the North Carolina social Worker Newsletter, which includes regional job listings;
- Group rate health, life, and disability insurance coverage;
- Leadership opportunities on the local, state, and national level;
- Discounts on all NASW specialty journals;
- A discount on the Encyclopedia of Social Work and Social Work Dictionary;
- Low-cost malpractice insurance through the NASW Insurance Trust; and
- Access to professional competence recognition through the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW).

Students are urged to participate in NASW.

### CODE OF ETHICS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

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The faculty of the School of Social Work subscribes to the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers for all social work practitioners, whether or not they are members of NASW. The full text of the Code can be found at:

<http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp>.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS (NABSW)

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Membership in NABSW is open to Black people working in human services and is not predicated upon degree or experience. There are NABSW chapters throughout the country, with links in Africa and the Caribbean.

From its inception, NABSW recognized the importance of students as it called for improved client/worker/administration relations. NABSW has financially supported an Office of Student Affairs that is student-operated and has full membership in the organization. NABSW has concern for the recruitment, admission/hiring retention, and graduation/promotion of African American students and faculty in schools of social work. There is also concern for curriculum development, teaching (classroom and practicum) that is monitored by the Education Committee of NABSW.

The Triangle Association of Black Social Workers (TABSW) is a regional chapter of NABSW, which sponsors programs related to service delivery and policy making, such as the adoption of African American children, family service, education, employment, and political education. A chapter in Charlotte offers similar programs.

TABSW is also an affiliate member of the North Carolina State Association of Black Social Workers (NCSABSW). This enables North Carolina chapters to interact with and support each other. NCSABSW sponsors an annual state conference to address relevant social work service needs of clients, students, practitioners, educators and administrators, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Students are eligible to be full members, and they may form a unit within NABSW to express their concerns. NABSW encourages students and practitioners to be supportive of their mutual concerns for accountability and responsibility in social work service.

NABSW has annual conferences and educational tours. Its publications are the Black Caucus Journal and the NABSW Newspaper. Through its various committees on social welfare, NABSW addresses individual, family and community needs. The organization engages in social action, research, and other activities to promote improvement in the civil, legal, health, and socio-economic status of African Americans. NABSW has instituted a certification education process related to working effectively with African American clients.

## NABSW CODE OF ETHICS

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The Code of Ethics of NABSW, adopted in 1971, Can be found at:

<http://www.nabsw.org/about/codeofethics2.htm>.

## NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK

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The North Carolina Society for Clinical Social Work (NCSCSW) has the purpose of advancing and promoting the practice of clinical social work by:

- Improving the qualifications and the effectiveness of the Clinical Social Worker through high standards of education, experience, ethics, conduct, and achievement;
- Increasing and disseminating knowledge through workshops, student groups, short courses, and publications and
- Engaging in advocacy, licensing, public education, and social actions.

NCSCSW is affiliated with the Clinical Social Work Federation and adheres to the ethical principles stated in the Federation's Code of Ethics. These codified ethical principles serve as a standard for clinical social workers as psychotherapists and in their various other professional roles, relationships, and responsibilities. A copy of this Code of Ethics is available in the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The Code establishes ethical standards in the following areas:

- Responsibility to clients
- Relationships with colleagues
- Remuneration
- Confidentiality
- Societal and legal standards
- Pursuit of research and scholarly activities
- Public statements

Students are encouraged to become members of NCSCSW. Student members are also eligible to join the Clinical Social Work Guild of AFL-CIO with its entire attendant power and benefits. NCSCSW offers students liability insurance at reduced rates as well as medical and disability insurance. Two second-year students act as student representatives to the society and attend the meetings of the Board of Directors. Adjunct Professor Jay Williams is the School's liaison to NCSCSW.

A scholarship is awarded by the NCSCSW each spring semester to a second-year student to recognize promise in the field of clinical social work. Candidates for this award submit a case summary and meet with the scholarship committee to discuss their work.

NCSCSW also sponsors a mentoring program. If requested, the mentoring program will link a recent MSW graduate with a senior clinician in an effort to provide assistance in the transition from graduate school to beginning clinical practice. Finally, NCSCSW offers a Student Treatment Referral Service to students interested in low-fee psychotherapy. For more information on these programs contact NCSCSW offices at 919-490-0192 or email at [ncscsw@aol.com](mailto:ncscsw@aol.com).

## NORTH CAROLINA SOCIAL WORK CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE BOARD

“The profession of social work significantly affects the lives of people in North Carolina. The North Carolina Social Work Certification and Licensure Board protects the public by setting standards for qualifications, training, and experience for those who see to represent themselves to the public as a certified/licensed social worker and by promoting high standards of professional performance for those engaged in the practice of social work” (What is NCSWCLB? Retrieved 6/21/06 from [www.nccbsw.org](http://www.nccbsw.org)).

The following certificates are granted by the NCSWCLB based on the qualifications of the individual applying:

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker.--A person who is competent to function independently, who holds himself or herself out to the public as a social worker, and who offers or provides clinical social work services or supervises others engaging in clinical social work practice.
- Certified Master Social Worker.--A person who is certified to practice social work as a master social worker and is engaged in the practice of social work.
- Certified Social Work Manager.--A person who is to practice social work as a social work manager and is engaged in the practice of social work.
- Certified Social Worker.--A person who is certified to practice social work as a social worker and is engaged in the practice of social work.

Students who intend to apply for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker Provisional clinical license may apply during their last semester prior to graduation. This is advised for students who may be seeking employment in a role that requires the P-LCSW certification. As the licensure board considers these applications once monthly, there may be some time lag between application and approval. Application requirements and forms are found on the website: <http://www.nccbsw.org>.

## NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

“The Board provides opportunity for individuals working in the substance abuse field to become involved in the credentialing process at different stages of their professional development. The Board embraces the belief that the primary function of a substance abuse counselor is to provide therapeutic assistance to persons and families struggling with issues of chemical dependency and/or abuse. This assistance may take the form of individual, group, or family counseling, referral aftercare planning and provision of information. In order to provide such assistance the counselor needs to possess a thorough knowledge of alcohol and other drug addiction along with their corresponding withdrawal syndromes and other physiological side effects. Substance abuse counseling experience is therefore defined as approved supervised experience, full-time or part-time, paid or voluntary, working directly with the drug and/or alcohol client. This experience may be both direct or indirect, but must include all of the 12 core functions. Formal education or unsupervised work experience may not be substituted for the experience requirement. All experience must be appropriately documented by job description and supervisor’s evaluation.” (NCSAPPB, Credentialing Procedures Manual, page 3, 2005.)

### **90.113.39. Standards for credentials.**

The Board shall establish standards to credential substance abuse professionals. The credentialing standards of the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Incorporated and the standards adopted by professional disciplines granted deemed status or their successor organizations may be used as guidelines for the Board's standards. The Board shall publish these required standards.

**90.113.31A. Definitions. (excerpted for informational purposes)**

The following definitions shall apply in this Article:

(c) The Board shall issue a license credentialing an applicant as a "Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist" if, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivisions (a)(1) through (5a) of this section, the applicant meets one of the following criteria:

**(1) Criteria A.** – The applicant:

- a. Has a minimum of a master's degree with a clinical application in a human services field from a regionally accredited college or university.
- b. Has two years post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience.
- c. Submits three letters of reference from Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialists or Certified Substance Abuse Counselors who have obtained master's degrees.
- d. Has achieved a combined passing score set by the Board on a Master's level written and oral examination administered by the Board.
- e. Has attained 180 hours of substance abuse specific training from either a regionally accredited college or university, which may include unlimited independent study, or from training events of which no more than fifty percent shall be in independent study. All hours shall be credited according to the standards set forth in G.S. 90-113.41A.
- f. The applicant has documented completion of a minimum of 300 hours supervised practical training and has provided a Board-approved supervision contract between the applicant and an applicant supervisor.

**(2) Criteria B.** – The applicant:

- a. Has a minimum of a master's degree with a clinical application in a human services field from a regionally accredited college or university.
- b. Has been certified as a substance abuse counselor.
- c. Has one year of post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience.
- d. Has achieved a passing score on a Master's level written examination administered by the Board.
- e. Submits three letters of reference from either Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialists or Certified Substance Abuse Counselors who have obtained master's degrees.

**(3) Criteria C.** – The applicant:

- a. Has a minimum of a master's degree in a human services field with both a clinical application and a substance abuse specialty from a regionally accredited college or university that includes 180 hours of substance abuse specific education and training pursuant to G.S. 90-113.41A.
- b. Has one year of post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience.
- c. Has achieved a passing score on an oral examination administered by the Board.
- d. Submits three letters of reference from either Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialists or Certified Substance Abuse Counselors who have obtained master's degrees.

**(4) Criteria D.** – The applicant has a substance abuse certification from a professional discipline that has been granted deemed status by the Board. (For additional information or clarification see also, [www.ncsappb.org](http://www.ncsappb.org))

Social work students planning a first or second year Field Placement in a substance abuse setting should contact the Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies staff in the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program, (919-962-5857, Suite #469) prior to placement for additional information required of students wishing to complete the Certificate as part of their MSW studies program.

## NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK CERTIFICATE

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School Social Workers in North Carolina are licensed at the BSW, MSW, Advanced and Ph.D. levels. School Social Workers must be competent in the following areas: social work philosophy, social work practice (especially direct and indirect services to children and families), school social work practice, knowledge of community resources and educational issues. UNC Chapel Hill offers course and field work for students to be Licensed School Social Workers at the MSW level upon graduation provided they meet the requirements listed below.

Graduate Level Licensure in School Social Work requires applicants to do the following:

1. Successfully complete MSW course work in services to families and children or related areas. Students can choose Director or CMPP Practice during their Concentration year.
2. Successfully complete at least 400 clock hours of field practicum in a school social work placement.
3. Successful completion of an approved, graduate level course in school social work policy and practice.
4. Successful completion of an approved, graduate level course in education such as educational policy, services to special children and their families, school law, or testing and measurement.

Complete applicant packet requesting a Social Work License to the Department of Public Instruction after Graduation.