

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

March 22, 2021

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

MEETING AGENDA

Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings were held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

This meeting was available by Web

Board of Social Work - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m98cde39750bd20eaace19ba67f6a4693>

This meeting was available by Phone

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 478 300 028

BOSW Mission Statement:

"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through the provision of health care services."

OPEN SESSION AGENDA March 22, 2021

	<u>Roll Call</u>	VS
OS-0322-01	<u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda</u>	
OS-0322-02	<u>Executive Director’s Report:</u>	
OS-0322-03	<u>Chairperson’s Report:</u>	VS
OS-0322-04	<u>Board’s Attorney’s Report:</u>	
OS-0322-05	<u>Open Session Minutes</u> <u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the January 25, 2021 meeting.	
OS-0322-06	<u>Request for Supervised Practice for BSW and MSW Graduates</u> <u>Board Action:</u> To discuss the possible implementation of a supervised practice form to allow MSW and BSW graduates to work under supervision while they wait to sit for the national examination. <u>Background:</u> During the September 28, 2020 meeting, Ms. Loretta Rodts from Community Connections addressed the Board and expressed the need for the Board to allow MSW and BSW graduates to work unlicensed under supervision. A number of community organizations have signed a letter in support of the implementation of a supervised practice letter by the Board of Social Work. During the October 26, 2020 meeting, the Board discussed the following and had questions that required further research. They tabled the matter for further discussion with increased external participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity regarding what the implementation of a supervised practice form would entail. • Ask staff questions regarding possibly increased workload. • How would the implementation of the supervised practice form be monitored and tracked? • The need for the external stakeholders to have conversations with the test developer ASWB. • Does the exam pass rate increase with the use of supervised practice? 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role are employers willing to play? 	
OS-0322-07	<p><u>Ethical Concerns with DC Sexual Assault Victim’s Rights Amendment Act of 2019</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Board received an email from Ms. Sherrod regarding the DC law on Teen advocates. The DC Sexual Assault Victims’ Rights Amendment Act of 2019 included the right to an advocate for 13 to 17-year-old youth in DC who have experienced sexual assault. For youth in this age range who were specifically impacted by peer-on-peer or stranger assault, the right to an advocate comes with an exemption to mandated reporting. Licensee would like the Board’s guidance since it had potential ethical implications on social workers.</p>	
OS-0322-08	<p><u>Board Delegations:</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> The Board is to review the outlined delegated authorities and determine whether to accept.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> As the Board of Social Work (“the Board”) is limited in how often it can meet, the Board has delegated various authorities to Board staff to help accomplish the goal of public safety. These delegated authorities are limited in nature and are intended to facilitate the business of the Board in an efficient and expedient manner, while at the same time ensuring patient safety is always maintained. Included for review and acceptance are the CBC chart and the suggested fines/assessments for violations.</p>	

OS-0322-09	<p><u>Enquiry regarding LGSWs in Private Practice</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To review the enquiry and provide clarification if possible.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Board received an enquiry regarding the policy guidance for LGSW’s in private practice specifically the section on: The supervising LICSW must participate in the initial intake and diagnostic assessment of all clients served by the LGSW subject to the following: For an LGSW with less than 1,500 hours of supervised clinical experience, the supervising LICSW must participate in a face-to-face interview of the clients. With being completely virtual right now, our current intake process for our LGPCs is....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After completing a phone screening, our intake coordinator places clients with clinicians (including LGs) based on specialty area and insurance. • Before meeting with the LG, an independently licensed clinician conducts an abbreviated assessment to make sure the client is appropriate for telehealth and to work with an LG. • Client is then transferred to the LG clinician for ongoing assessment and treatment under their board approved supervisor <p>Would our current procedures align with what the scope of practice is outlining? We feel we've put many stopgaps in place to ensure clients are appropriately evaluated before working with LGs. If we were to use these procedures for LGSWs the client would be coming to the LGSW already evaluated, so the supervisor sitting in on the session seems superfluous. Given we are such a large practice we have many independently licensed clinicians and supervisors who are able to support our LGs in this way.</p>	
OS-0322-10	<p><u>Question on Who can Diagnosis and/or Develop Treatment Plans</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p>	

	<p>The Board is to discuss the question and provided feedback.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> "Is either diagnosis or treatment planning reserved to independent practitioners only? Or, may supervised professionals also perform same? If the supervisees cannot perform them, how do they learn?"</p>	
OS-0322-11	<p><u>Health Occupation Revision Act (HORA) Revision</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> The Board is to review and revise the HORA related to the professionals' scope of practices for social workers.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> (18) (A) "Practice of social work" means rendering or offering to render professional services to individuals, families, or groups of individuals that involve the diagnosis and treatment of psychosocial problems according to social work theory and methods. Depending upon the level at which an individual social worker is licensed under this chapter, the professional services may include, but shall not be limited to, the formulation of psychosocial evaluation and assessment, counseling, psychotherapy, referral, advocacy, mediation, consultation, research, administration, education, and community organization.</p> <p>§ 3-1202.12. Board of Social Work. (a) There is established a Board of Social Work to consist of 5 members appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council. (b) The Board shall regulate the practice of social work, including categories of specialties within the social work profession. (c) Of the members of the Board, 4 shall be social workers licensed in the District, representing each of the 4 licensing categories established by subchapter VIII of this chapter, and 1 shall be a consumer member. (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, members of the Board shall be appointed for terms of 3 years. (e) Of the members initially appointed under this section, 1 shall be appointed for a term of 1 year, 2 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and 2 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years. The terms of the members first appointed shall begin on the date that a</p>	

majority of the first members are sworn in, which shall become the anniversary date for all subsequent appointments.

(12) Issuing rules, as the Mayor may periodically determine to be necessary to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of the District, for the temporary licensure for a fixed period of time not to exceed 90 days and under conditions to be prescribed by the Mayor by rule, of applicants for licensure to practice a health occupation in the District, except the Mayor may provide for the issuance of temporary licenses to applicants for licensure to practice social work and marriage and family therapy for a period not to exceed 1 year, and to applicants for licensure to practice as anesthesiologist assistants for a period not to exceed 2 years;

SUBCHAPTER VIII. CATEGORIES AND QUALIFICATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS § 3-1208.01. Licensed social work associate. (a) The

Board of Social Work shall license as a social work associate a person who, in addition to meeting the requirements of subchapter V of this chapter, has a baccalaureate degree ("B.S.W.") from a social work program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education, and has satisfactorily completed the examination process at the associate level. (b) A licensed social work associate ("L.S.W.A.") may perform case work, group work, as of 1/2015 96 and community organization services under the supervision of a social worker licensed under § 3-1208.03 or § 3-1208.04. § 3-1208.02. Licensed graduate social worker. (a) The Board of Social Work shall license as a graduate social worker a person who, in addition to meeting the requirements of subchapter V of this chapter, has a master's degree or a doctorate from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, and has satisfactorily completed the examination process at the graduate level. (b) A licensed graduate social worker ("L.G.S.W.") may perform any function described as the practice of social work in this chapter, other than psychotherapy, under the supervision of a social worker licensed under § 3-1208.03 or § 3-1208.04, and may perform psychotherapy under the supervision of a social worker licensed under § 3-1208.04. § 3-1208.03.

	<p>Licensed independent social worker. (a) The Board of Social Work shall license as an independent social worker a person who, in addition to meeting the requirements of subchapter V of this chapter, has a master's degree or a doctorate from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, has satisfactorily completed the examination process at the independent level, and has at least 3,000 hours post-master's or postdoctoral experience under the supervision of a licensed independent social worker over a period of not less than 2 or more than 4 years. (b) A licensed independent social worker ("L.I.S.W.") may perform any function described as the practice of social work in this chapter, other than the diagnosis or treatment (including psychotherapy) of psychosocial problems, in an autonomous, self-regulated fashion, in an agency setting or independently, and may direct other persons in the performance of these functions. § 3-1208.04. Licensed independent clinical social worker. (a) The Board of Social Work shall license as an independent clinical social worker a person who, in addition to meeting the requirements of subchapter V of this chapter, has a master's degree or a doctorate from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, has satisfactorily completed the examination process at the independent clinical level, and has at least 3,000 hours of post-master's or postdoctoral experience participating in the diagnosis and treatment of individuals, families, and groups with psychosocial problems, under the supervision of a licensed independent clinical social worker over a period of not less than 2 years or more than 4 years; under As of 1/2015 97 special circumstances approved by the Board, supervision by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist may be substituted for up to 1500 hours of this requirement. (b) A licensed independent clinical social worker ("L.I.C.S.W.") may perform any function described as the practice of social work in this chapter, in an autonomous, self-regulated fashion, in an agency setting or independently, and may supervise other persons in the performance of these functions. A licensed independent clinical social worker shall not engage in the practice of medicine and shall refer patients or clients with</p>	
--	---	--

	<p>apparent medical problems to an appropriate and qualified medical practitioner. § 3-1208.05. Transition. For a period of 2 years following March 25, 1986, all references in this subchapter to supervision by licensed social workers shall be deemed to refer to supervision by persons meeting the requirements for licensure in the District, regardless of whether they are licensed in fact. § 3-1208.06. Waiver of requirements. (a) The Board of Social Work shall waive the educational and examination requirements for any applicant for licensure as a social worker who can demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that he or she has been performing the functions of a social worker, as defined in this chapter, on a full-time or substantially full-time basis continually at least 12 months immediately preceding March 25, 1986, and is qualified to do so on the basis of pertinent education, training, experience, and demonstrated current competence, provided that application for the license is made within 24 months of March 25, 1986. (b) The Board of Social Work shall waive the examination requirement for any applicant who meets the educational requirements for licensure as a social worker, has practiced as a social worker or as a social work administrator, whether full time or not, within a 3-year period immediately preceding March 25, 1986, and is qualified to do so on the basis of pertinent experience, and demonstrated current competence, provided that application for the license is made within 24 months of March 25, 1986. (c) Applicants licensed under the waiver provisions of this section shall be eligible for license renewal on the same terms as all other licensed social workers.</p>	
OS-0322-12	<p><u>Open Session Consent Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting.</p>	

OS-0322-13	<p><u>Motion to Close</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted by DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p>	
------------	---	--

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 26, 2020.**

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.