



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Commission on Accreditation (COA)
Department of Social Work Accreditation (DOSWA)
Baccalaureate and Master's Social Work Program Accreditation

2022 EPAS
Accreditation Standard M3.2.1 | Sample
Competencies 1 & 2 out of 9

This sample was developed by CSWE's Department of Social Work Accreditation to model extended and enhanced competencies. Programs input their own content.

Accreditation Standard M3.2.1: The program has at least one area of specialized practice. For each area of specialized practice, the program extends and enhances the nine social work competencies (and any additional competencies added by the program).

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| <p>a. The program provides its area(s) of specialized practice, as described in Educational Policy M3.2.</p> |
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Area of Specialized Practice #1: Clinical Social Work Practice

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| <p>b. The program provides its extended and enhanced nine social work competencies and corresponding behaviors (and any additional competencies added by the program) for each area of specialized practice.</p> |
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Area of Specialized Practice #1: Clinical Social Work Practice

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Practitioners in clinical social work recognize the importance of the therapeutic relationship, the person-in-environment and the strengths perspectives, the professional use of self with clients, and adherence to ethical guidelines of professional behavior. Practitioners in clinical social work recognize their role on inter-professional teams in practice and the ethical use of technology tools for clinical social work practice. Practitioners in clinical social work understand and apply ethical standards, modeling ethical use of treatment modalities in practice.

Clinical social workers:

- a. readily identify as social work professionals;

- b. demonstrate professional use of self with client;
- c. identify professional strengths, limitations and challenges;
- d. demonstrate their role on inter-professional teams in practice
- e. develop, manage, and maintain therapeutic relationships with clients within the person-in-environment and strengths perspectives; and
- f. use technology tools ethically for clinical social work practice; and
- g. demonstrate ethical use of clinical modalities in practice.

Competency 2: Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Practitioners in clinical social work are knowledgeable of systemic injustices that occur in the world and take special care to ensure that they approach every client with an understanding of the difficulties and trauma that each client may experience as a result of these injustices and ensure that all clients are treated with dignity and respect. Practitioners in clinical social work take a holistic approach to engaging with their clients as social workers by advocating for the client for their individual rights with a framework of equity in power and privilege, while also fighting against systemic barriers that impacts all clients.

- a. demonstrate an understanding that social work practice extends to micro, mezzo, and macro practice;
- b. engage in advocacy efforts for both client’s individual needs and the wellbeing of the community;
- c. readily seek to eliminate oppressive systems and barriers to social, racial, economic, and environmental justice;
- d. use and apply research knowledge of diverse populations to enhance client wellbeing, to work effectively with diverse populations;
- e. engage in trauma-informed practice;
- f. identify and use practitioner/client differences and life experiences from a strength’s perspective.

c. The program addresses all program options.
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Check One:

- The program has only one (1) option.
- Our response/compliance plan is the same for all program options.
- Our response/compliance plan differs between program options in the following ways: