

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Clinical Social Work and Social Work
5 Practice Act is amended by changing Sections 9, 9A, and 12.5 as
6 follows:

7 (225 ILCS 20/9) (from Ch. 111, par. 6359)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

9 Sec. 9. Qualifications for clinical social worker license.
10 A person shall be qualified to be licensed as a clinical social
11 worker if that person:

12 (1) has applied in writing on the prescribed form;

13 (2) has not engaged in conduct or actions that would
14 constitute grounds for discipline under this Act;

15 (3) (a) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the
16 Department that, subsequent to securing a master's degree
17 in social work from an approved program and obtaining a
18 social worker license under Section 9A or temporarily
19 practicing pending the issuance of a social worker license
20 under Section 9B if the license was ultimately issued, the
21 applicant has successfully completed at least 3,000 hours
22 of satisfactory, supervised clinical professional
23 experience; or

1 (b) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Department
2 that such applicant has received a doctor's degree in
3 social work from an approved program and has, subsequent
4 to receiving the degree, completed at least 2,000 hours of
5 satisfactory, supervised clinical professional experience
6 after obtaining a social worker license under Section 9A
7 or during temporary practice pending the issuance of a
8 social worker license under Section 9B if the license was
9 ultimately issued ~~subsequent to the degree;~~

10 (4) has passed the examination for the practice of
11 clinical social work as authorized by the Department or
12 has completed the examination alternative set forth in
13 Section 8.2; and

14 (5) has paid the required fees.

15 Notwithstanding paragraph (3), any hours of supervised
16 clinical professional experience completed before the
17 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th General
18 Assembly may be counted toward the required hours for
19 qualification under this Section if the hours were completed
20 subsequent to securing an applicable graduate degree and the
21 completed hours would have qualified toward licensure under
22 the law in effect at the time the hours were earned.

23 (Source: P.A. 103-433, eff. 1-1-24; 104-178, eff. 1-1-26.)

24 (225 ILCS 20/9A) (from Ch. 111, par. 6359A)

25 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

1 Sec. 9A. Qualifications for license as licensed social
2 worker. A person shall be qualified to be licensed as a
3 licensed social worker if that person:

4 (1) has applied in writing on the prescribed form;

5 (2) has not engaged in conduct or actions that would
6 constitute grounds for discipline under this Act;

7 (3) (a) has a degree from a graduate program of social
8 work approved by the Department; or

9 (b) has a degree in social work from an undergraduate
10 program approved by the Department and has successfully
11 completed at least 3,000 hours ~~3 years~~ of supervised
12 professional experience subsequent to obtaining the degree
13 within a period of no more than 4 years, as established by
14 rule. The Department may grant a waiver for or an
15 extension of the 4-year time period under this
16 subparagraph (b) upon a showing of good cause. If no
17 supervision by a licensed social worker or a licensed
18 clinical social worker is available, then supervised
19 professional experience may include supervision by other
20 appropriate disciplines as defined by rule;

21 (4) (blank); and

22 (5) has paid the required fees.

23 An individual who is in the process of completing the
24 hours of supervised professional experience under subparagraph
25 (b) of paragraph (3) shall be subject to oversight by the
26 Department solely for the purpose of determining the

1 individual's eligibility for licensure and the eligibility of
2 the completed hours for the supervised professional experience
3 requirement.

4 The Department may, by rule:

5 (A) establish standards for supervision,
6 documentation, and verification of any supervised
7 professional experience;

8 (B) deny or invalidate any hours of supervised
9 professional experience obtained in violation of this Act
10 or Department rules; and

11 (C) deny an application for licensure based on conduct
12 that occurred during the time period in which the
13 applicant was completing the hours of supervised
14 professional experience if the conduct would have
15 constituted grounds for discipline under this Act had the
16 individual been licensed at the time.

17 (Source: P.A. 104-178, eff. 1-1-26.)

18 (225 ILCS 20/12.5)

19 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

20 Sec. 12.5. Endorsement. The Department may issue a license
21 as a clinical social worker or as a social worker, without the
22 required examination, to an applicant licensed under the laws
23 of another jurisdiction if the requirements for licensure in
24 that jurisdiction are, on the date of licensure, substantially
25 equivalent to the requirements of this Act, except for the

1 requirement to be licensed while obtaining the required
2 supervised experience under Section 9, or to any person who,
3 at the time of the person's licensure, possessed individual
4 qualifications that were substantially equivalent to the
5 requirements then in force in this State. An applicant under
6 this Section shall pay the required fees.

7 An individual applying for licensure as a clinical social
8 worker who has been licensed at the independent level in
9 another United States jurisdiction for 5 consecutive years
10 without discipline is not required to submit proof of
11 completion of the education and supervised clinical
12 professional experience required in paragraph (3) of Section
13 9. Individuals with 5 consecutive years of experience must
14 submit certified verification of licensure from the
15 jurisdiction in which the applicant practiced and must comply
16 with all other licensing requirements and pay all required
17 fees.

18 If the accuracy of any submitted documentation or the
19 relevance or sufficiency of the course work or experience is
20 questioned by the Department or the Board because of a lack of
21 information, discrepancies or conflicts in information given,
22 or a need for clarification, the applicant seeking licensure
23 may be required to provide additional information.

24 An applicant has 3 years from the date of application to
25 complete the application process. If the process has not been
26 completed within 3 years, the application shall be denied, the

1 fee shall be forfeited, and the applicant must reapply and
2 meet the requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.

3 (Source: P.A. 102-1053, eff. 6-10-22; 103-1048, eff. 1-1-25.)

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
5 1, 2027.