

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 5 and 9 and by
6 adding Section 8.2 as follows:

7 (225 ILCS 20/5) (from Ch. 111, par. 6355)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

9 Sec. 5. Powers and duties of the Department. Subject to
10 the provisions of this Act, the Department shall exercise the
11 following functions, powers, and duties:

12 (1) Conduct or authorize examinations or examination
13 alternatives to ascertain the qualifications and fitness
14 of candidates for a license to engage in the independent
15 practice of clinical social work, pass upon the
16 qualifications of applicants for licenses, and issue
17 licenses to those who are found to be fit and qualified.

18 (2) Adopt rules required for the administration and
19 enforcement of this Act.

20 (3) Adopt rules for determining approved undergraduate
21 and graduate social work degree programs and prepare and
22 maintain a list of colleges and universities offering such
23 approved programs whose graduates, if they otherwise meet

1 the requirements of this Act, are eligible to apply for a
2 license.

3 (4) Prescribe forms to be issued for the
4 administration and enforcement of this Act consistent with
5 and reflecting the requirements of this Act and rules
6 adopted pursuant to this Act.

7 (5) Conduct investigations related to possible
8 violations of this Act.

9 (6) Maintain rosters of the names and addresses of all
10 persons who hold valid licenses under this Act. These
11 rosters shall be available upon written request and
12 payment of the required fee.

13 (Source: P.A. 102-326, eff. 1-1-22.)

14 (225 ILCS 20/8.2 new)

15 Sec. 8.2. Examination alternative.

16 (a) An applicant may use an examination alternative to
17 allow the Department to ascertain the qualifications and
18 fitness of candidates for a license to engage in the
19 independent practice of clinical social work.

20 (b) The examination alternative shall consist of at least
21 3,000 hours of supervised professional experience that is
22 obtained within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding
23 the date of application and after the degree is obtained as
24 established by rule. If no supervision by a licensed clinical
25 social worker is available, then supervised professional

1 experience may include supervision by other appropriate
2 disciplines as defined by rule.

3 (c) The examination alternative supervised professional
4 experience shall be in addition to any other supervised
5 clinical professional experience required for licensure.

6 (d) Beginning January 1, 2026, an applicant acquiring the
7 examination alternative supervised professional experience
8 must be a licensed social worker or licensed in this State for
9 the practice of school social work prior to acquiring the
10 supervised professional experience.

11 (225 ILCS 20/9) (from Ch. 111, par. 6359)

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

13 Sec. 9. Qualifications for clinical social worker license.

14 A person shall be qualified to be licensed as a clinical social
15 worker if that person:

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

17 (2) is of good moral character. In determining good
18 moral character, the Department may take into
19 consideration whether the applicant was engaged in conduct
20 or actions that would constitute grounds for discipline
21 under this Act;

22 (3) (a) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the
23 Department that subsequent to securing a master's degree
24 in social work from an approved program the applicant has
25 successfully completed at least 3,000 hours of

1 satisfactory, supervised clinical professional
2 experience; or

3 (b) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Department
4 that such applicant has received a doctor's degree in
5 social work from an approved program and has completed at
6 least 2,000 hours of satisfactory, supervised clinical
7 professional experience subsequent to the degree;

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

12 (5) has paid the required fees.

13 (Source: P.A. 100-414, eff. 8-25-17.)