

ABSWE

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334/242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672

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Upcoming State Holiday's

July 4, 2010
Sept 6, 2010
Oct 11, 2010
Nov 11, 2010
Nov 25, 2010
Dec 25, 2010

Please note that the
Board Office will be
closed on the days
posted above.

View from the Chair



By: Teresa L. Young, LCSW

Recently, I attended a social work conference where one of the speakers talked about taking "ownership for your supervision". The speaker encouraged social workers to be more proactive and involved in their supervision. This is extremely important to any of you who are working toward your LCSW and PIP. As with most things, I have noticed that as social workers we often put the needs of others ahead of our own personal needs, such as attending to our supervision. Yes, I recently learned the hard way the importance of good documentation or at minimum keeping track of your past supervisors. Having worked for a number of years within an organization where licensure was not required I can tell you from experience that it is easy to become complacent about supervision. However, credentials become extremely important when your career is no longer under the umbrella of a large government agency and you find yourself competing for jobs with other individuals who have been more aggressive in obtaining those credentials.

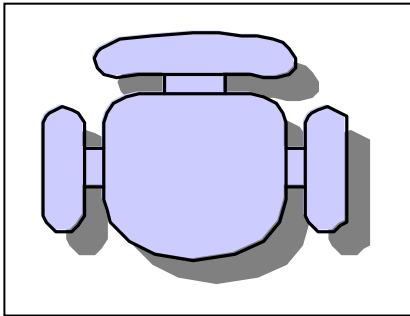
It is important to remember that if you want to qualify for a PIP certification in a particular area that your work experience must be within that area AND your supervisor must also be approved to provide supervision in that area. For example, if you have your LCSW and are interested in obtaining a PIP in the clinical area, then your supervisor must have a PIP in clinical and you must be working in a clinical setting in order for you to qualify.

If you have just obtained your social work license and are looking for supervision, a good place to start is the website of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. Here you will find a list of social workers with PIP certification and what areas in which they are approved and qualified to supervise. PIP licensees may charge a fee for the supervision that they provide - another reason to make sure that you are making a good investment. PIP licensees must obtain additional CEU's in order to renew their PIP certification every two years - in addition to maintaining their LCSW licensure. Be sure that the individual providing your supervision is maintaining a **current** PIP certification and LCSW license.

(Continued on page 2)

View from the Chair - continued from page 1

By: Teresa L. Young, LCSW



If you are working within an agency, supervision can often be arranged at no cost to the individual by a licensed, qualified member of the management team. Speak with your agency about arranging for licensure supervision and be sure to complete a formal agreement for supervision. The staff of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners is available to assist you with any licensure questions.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a special note of thanks to the individual who provided my clinical supervision. Starting a counseling program within a non-profit agency presented a number of challenges – not limited to the knowledge that for the first time in a rather lengthy career, I would have to find supervision outside of my own agency. Through what I can only say had to be part of a plan greater than my own, I stumbled into a long-time acquaintance at a New Year's Eve party. By this point, desperation had achieved a new level, so I asked if he ever supervised anyone. For the next two years, he afforded me one hour each week from his busy schedule to allow me to come sit down with him and discuss my cases and any other issues that impacted my ability to become a better social worker. For his dedication and commitment to providing good supervision, I will be forever in his debt. ▲

Rolling Out With a New Application On-Line

Well it's been almost a year since we added the "re-examination" applications to the website and now we're finally ready to try our luck at adding the "new apps". We've held off a few months longer than we originally planned due to the complications that can arise with an on-line application. There are so many variables in the application processing that can affect the outcome. The application is not only used for new social workers to take the licensing exam but it is also used for people already licensed in other states applying for licensure in Alabama. So naturally there are different things required of each applicant depending on the type of application they're submitting. It could be for LBSW, LGSW, LCSW which would require the proof of supervision or for reciprocity which comes with a list of other requirements to complete. Trying to cover the possible scenarios has been time consuming and tedious as you will find out if you ever complete the on-line application form. I'm not saying it will be impossible to do; it's just a long process. But then the paper application is 6 pages long, so that's not fast either.

The Board is using Alabama Interactive (AI) again for the on-line application which means there will be a processing fee as there is for the other on-line applications available. The fee will be the same as it is for renewals and re-exams (\$3.50) in addition to the \$75 application fee. The \$3.50 goes to AI for allowing us to use their processing equipment to collect the data and collect the credit card charges. Again the typed signature will satisfy the "notary" signature needed for the application due to Alabama Law covering this requirement.

And since we're on the subject of on-line applications I would like to thank everyone that has renewed their license on-line. Most of the responses we get about the on-line renewal process are how much easier it is and how quick it is to complete. Occasionally there are some people that run into a snag but for most it goes very smoothly. Currently 69% of the renewals processed this year have come in from the on-line application. ▲

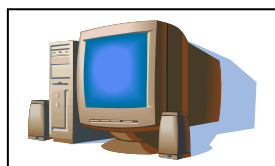
4698B	ANDREA M. BROTHERS	ALBERTVILLE
4699B	CHRISTY G. WHATLEY	HUEYTOWN
4700B	ASHLEY L. COVEY	MOBILE
4701B	LAUREN E. PATTERSON	MADISON
4702B	EMILY K. AKRIDGE	MOBILE
4703B	LAQUITA M. PELT	MOBILE
4704B	DIANA COTTER	ELGIN
4705B	NAKEISHA M. PERNELL	JACKSON
4706B	ALISHA N. RUFFIN	BIRMINGHAM
4707B	SHAKEITHA M. DIRCK	OPELIKA
4708B	CHERYL R. JONES	TUSKEGEE
4709B	DANIEL J. MCBURNETT	GADSDEN
4710B	WINTER L. STRINGFIELD	BIRMINGHAM
4711B	LAUREN R. SUMMERS	BIRMINGHAM
4712B	JENNIFER C. RANEY	ALABASTER
4713B	MARY L. DOBBINS	FLORENCE
4714B	JENNIFER M. WIDNER	DECATUR
4715B	MARY E. KING	FLORENCE
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4721B	JENNIFER A. BYARS BENEFIELD	FORT PAYNE
4722B	DARRON W. DUNSON, JR.	HOOVER
4723B	WENDY M. LIGON	LINEVILLE
4724B	SYLVIA B. PENROD	ONEONTA
4725B	KARA L. PRITCHARD	VESTAVIA HILLS
4726B	NAKOSHA H. FOREMAN	VALLEY
4727B	JEFFREY R. GONZALEZ	TUSCALOOSA
4728B	CRISSY G. VINING	TRUSSVILLE
4729B	JONATHAN H. DAVIS	BIRMINGHAM
4730B	ADRIANE S. FRAZIER	HUNTSVILLE
4731B	ANISHA R. HEATH	ANNISTON
4732B	MANDY L. ADAMS	TARRANT
4733B	AUTUMN E. HOLEMON	TUSCALOOSA
4734B	BRANDI L. LOEWEN	MOBILE
4735B	BRITTANY M. PRICE	MOUNDEVILLE
4736B	MONICA L. RUSSELL	SELMA
4737B	TARA H. BRADLEY	CALERA
4738B	ALICIA R. WEEKLY	DOTHAN
4739B	LAKIESHA D. BARNES	BIRMINGHAM
4740B	LAQUANTA L. FORD	COLUMBUS
4741B	KATHERINE E. KIRKPATRICK	MADISON
4742B	KIMMEA L. SPEARS	MERIDIAN
4743B	CARLA L. BAILEY	LEIGHTON
4744B	BILLY M. HOVATER	RUSSELLVILLE
4745B	AMBER R. SNIDER	DORA
4746B	KAREN D. FRAZIER	MONTGOMERY
4747B	KELSI L. WISE	SAMSON
2671G	JULIET A. BLACKSHER	BIRMINGHAM
2672G	HETAL H. CHAVDA	BIRMINGHAM

2673G	DOMINIQUE N. BENDOLPH	MONTGOMERY
2674G	BRIDGET A. COKER	TONEY
2675G	ALISON M. DOYLE	HUNTSVILLE
2676G	MONICA Y. JOHNSON	BIRMINGHAM
2677G	KIMBERLY M. PIROS	BIRMINGHAM
2678G	JESSICA H. NELSON	DECATUR
2679G	TOMEKA S. HALE	SYLACAUGA
2680G	GINA W. SMITH	ASHLAND
2681G	KELLEY M. HODEWOOD	BATON ROUGE
2682G	DALILA M. BASS	BIRMINGHAM
2683G	KIMBERLY N. BROWN	JACKSONVILLE
2684G	TERESA M. CARTER	DECATUR
2685G	PAGE B. RUBIN	BIRMINGHAM
2686G	KRISTIN G. WAKEFIELD	DECATUR
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2688G	MARTHA L. METZLER	RIGHTON
2689G	MIRANDA H. CHAPPELL	COLUMBIANA
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2691G	ROBIN L. WINGATE	SMYRNA
2692G	HALEY A. TURNAGE	HOMEWOOD
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2700G	MELINDA L. ALLEN	HUNTSVILLE
2701G	KRISTA E. VAN DERWOOD	TUSCALOOSA
2702G	SARAMARIE LATHAM	BIRMINGHAM
2703G	KENDRA W. NEWTON	MONTGOMERY
2704G	DONNA L. SCHUMAN	FT RUCKER
2705G	JANELLE B. FLYNN	BIRMINGHAM
2706G	D'ANDRA C. JOHNSON	LIPSCOMB
2707G	GRELIER C. KELLER	BIRMINGHAM
2708G	CYNTHIA D. CASTILE	SEMMES
2709G	TONYA C. AGAN	STEELE
2710G	ELLEN K. DOBBINS	NORTHPORT
2711G	PATRICIA A. DOUGHTY	TUSCALOOSA
2712G	SHERMANDRA A. MICKLES	BIRMINGHAM
2713G	TRACIE L. JAMES	BREWTON
2714G	SHARECE S. MILLER	PINSON
2715G	CRYSTAL E. MULLEN-JOHNSON	BIRMINGHAM
2716G	ALICIA M. SHANNON	BIRMINGHAM
2717G	ROBIN D. GILLILAND	GADSDEN
2718G	LINDSEY P. MARTIN	MONTGOMERY
2719G	KWAJALIN N. BROWN	PRATTVILLE
2720G	TARA L. BROWN	TUSCALOOSA
2721G	LEE A. BRYANT	DECATUR
2722G	WENDY M. BYRAM	MADISON
2723G	REBEKKAH A. SMITH	BIRMINGHAM
2724G	SARAH D. SHADIX	BIRMINGHAM

2725G	SARAH J. LUCKEY	BIRMINGHAM
2726G	DONNA D. MARTIN	MOUNDVILLE
2260C	PAMELA L. SAVAGE	DAPHNE
2261C	JESSICA L. COLEMAN	PINSON
2262C	JASON R. COWART	FAYETTE
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2264C	HOLLY M. BAILEY	FOLEY
2265C	STACY J. CHILDERS	FLORENCE
2266C	JOSHUA D. JOHNSON	BESSEMER
2267C	HEIDI L. BULLOCK	INDIANAPOLIS
2268C	LORI A. CONDON	ENTERPRISE
2269C	EMILY M. GARNETT	HARTSELLE
2270C	TONI D. LASSITER	JAY
2271C	RACHEL M. PARKER	FLORENCE
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2273C	JENNIFER J. CUSHINBERRY	LAWRENCEVILLE
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2282C	NATALIE G. WILLIAMS	PELHAM
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2286C	OFELIA G. GORDON	DECATUR
2287C	ANGEL R. RUSHING	CLINTON
2288C	BRANDYNICOLE BROOKS	LAUREL
2289C	ALISHA K. STANTON	MCCALLA
2290C	KIMBERLY R. WAUGH	PHENIX CITY
2291C	THRESEA L. EPPS	ATTALLA
2292C	BROCK C. SELLERS	HELENA
2293C	SARA B. CLEMENTS	MONTGOMERY
2294C	DEBRA B. FREDENBURG	MOBILE

The On-Line Bulletin Board

The purpose of the on-line Bulletin Board is to inform you of current events and postings. Be sure to check it out. Our aim is to keep you current on events and happenings pertaining to social work. If you're looking for a job look there first. If you need a job posted, sent it to us and we'll post it for free.



Choosing Inactive Status?

The Board held its Public Hearing which was scheduled for May 7, 2010 to consider the inactive status. New regulations were passed and new procedures have been put into place in dealing with this new status.

When a person selects the "inactive" status they are required to pay a registration fee of \$25 but not required to report any CE hours. You must register every two years at the same time the license would come up for renewal. There is no limit to the time you are allowed to continue registering as inactive but while you are inactive you are not allowed to practice social work in Alabama. This status is beneficial to people living out of state or simply not practicing. To return from inactive status the person must make-up the hours at a rate of 15 hours for each year they were inactive with the maximum number of hours to make up being 45 and pay the difference between active and inactive if they are returning to active in the middle of a renewal cycle. Therefore, a person who had been inactive for 6 years will need to show proof of completing 45 hours before the license could be reactivated. There is also a specification on how the hours are to be made up; 35% must come from classroom hours and the remaining 65% can be classroom or self-study, or a combination of both and all the hours must be from approved programs. Going back to our scenario of someone needing to complete the maximum number of hours would look something like this:

15.75 hours in classroom
29.25 hours in either classroom or self-study
 45 CE hours



Continuing Education: 101

By: Ramona Smith

Board of Social Work Examiners

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Ramona Smith
Registration
Coordinator

After being asked by our director if there was anything I'd like to contribute to the newsletter, I immediately began to think about the subject of the majority of our calls which, without a doubt, would be continuing education. At times, there seems to be confusion about how many hours are required, what is and isn't acceptable, how to get a program pre-approved, etc. Hopefully, this article will address those questions and any others you may have.

Licensees are required to obtain 30 hours of continuing education every two years for the renewal of their licenses. Of the 30 hours, 10 must be obtained in a classroom setting. The remaining 20 can be self-study. Licensees who also hold a PIP certification are required to obtain 20 additional hours every two years to renew their certification. All 20 can be self-study.

The following types of CE are accepted by the Board without pre-approval:

- Programs sponsored by any of the approved providers listed on our website under the link "Approved CE Providers" (Provider status must be current)
- Programs listed on our website under the link "Approved CE"
- Programs approved or sponsored by NASW (National Association of Social Workers) or any state chapter of NASW with a few exceptions
- Programs approved by ASWB - ACE (Association of Social Work Boards)
- Programs sponsored by the school of social work of a university or college accredited by CSWE (Council of Social Work Education)
- Academic social work or related social work courses offered by a university or college accredited by CSWE
- Programs approved by most other state's social work boards
- Programs approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing provided the material is social work related (If time is awarded in nursing hours, the hours must be converted to social work hours)

*If the program you're interested in does not fall under any of the categories above, it must be approved by the Board prior to attending. **This can be done by submitting the following information:***

- Title, date and location of program
- Detailed agenda showing times and topics
- Short bio on any speaker(s)
- Objective(s) of program

Once the information is received and reviewed by the Board, you will be notified in writing of its approval status. **Please note that because we have a large volume of CE to pre-approve, we ask that you submit your request at least two weeks prior to the date of the program.**

While I hope this information is helpful, please do not hesitate to contact us with any additional questions or concerns. ▲