

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

LCB FILE NO. R172-26I

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed
by the agency submitted on 08/12/2026**

The intent of this regulation is to comply with Assembly Bill 49 (2025) allowing an employer to hire a person to provide services as a school social worker pending Department licensure, and Senate Bill 277 allowing a person who is enrolled in a program for school social work to complete their internship while working in a school. Additionally, the intent is to align state licensure requirements with current professional standards, evidence-based practices, and clinical research in school social work to address appropriate qualifications, training, and scope of practice to effectively support student learning, mental health, and development within our current educational context..

NAC 391.320 Endorsement to serve as a *school* social worker. ([NRS 385.080](#), [391.019](#))

1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 391.XXX (authorization to serve without an endorsement as a school social worker), a person must hold an endorsement as a school social worker before providing school social work services to pupils.

1. 2. To ~~receive~~ *qualify for* an endorsement to serve as a *school* social worker, a person must:

(a) Hold a current license (*LSW, LMSW, or LCSW*) issued by the *Nevada* Board of Examiners for Social Workers ~~or hold a current equivalent license issued by a similar agency in another state and agree to obtain a license issued by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers within 1 year after the date on which the person applied for an endorsement; and~~

(b) ~~Have completed an educational program for social workers in schools which includes a practicum in schools or the equivalent professional or practicum experience providing services directly to children of school age, both individually and in groups, and to their families~~ *Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); and*

~~2. In addition to the requirements listed in subsection 1, a person who wishes to receive such an endorsement must~~

(c) have completed an education program for social workers which includes a practicum in schools or professional or practicum experience providing services directly to children of school age.

~~(a) Have completed a program to serve as a social worker in schools that is approved by the Board;~~

~~—(b) Hold the credential issued by the National Association of Social Workers certifying that the holder is a specialist in social work in schools; or~~

~~—(c) Hold a master's degree in social work from a college or university that has been accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.~~

~~—3. An endorsement to serve as a social worker held by a person who is not licensed in this State expires 1 year after the date on which the holder applied for the endorsement if the holder has not obtained a license issued by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers by that date.~~

3. A school social work provisional endorsement may be issued to a person if they

- (a) Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE);*
- (b) Are currently enrolled in a master's degree social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); and*
- (c) Have completed all required coursework and preliminary field hours, except for the final internship and its concurrent coursework.*

4. A person who holds a provisional endorsement issued pursuant to subsection 3 is authorized to complete any required internship and its concurrent coursework or practicum hours for the purpose of obtaining a full endorsement as a school social worker while remaining employed in such a position. A person completing their internship or practicum hours under this section:

- (a) Is authorized to provide support or other services relating to school social work.*
- (b) Must practice under the ongoing supervision of a person who holds a full endorsement as a school social worker;*
- (c) Must work under a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the CSWE-accredited preparation program and the employer;*
- (d) Is strictly prohibited from conducting mental health risk assessments.*
- (e) Must be assigned duties and school social work services that provide direct opportunities to develop the nine core competencies established by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); and*

(f) Must not count hours spent performing non-social work employment duties (including, but not limited to, serving as a substitute teacher, classroom aide, or administrator) toward the required hours of their social work practicum or internship.

5. 4. To renew the endorsement, the holder must:

(a) Continue to hold a valid license issued by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers; and

(b) *Submit a copy of their Board license to the Department.* ~~Each time that the license is renewed by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers, deliver a copy of the license to the Office of Educator Licensure within the Department.~~

[Bd. of Education, Certification Reg. § 391.470, eff. 10-23-81]—(NAC A by Comm'n on Prof. Standards in Education, 11-27-91; R051-13, 10-23-2013; R138-15, 6-28-2016)

NAC 391.XXX Authorization to serve without an endorsement as a school social worker.

1. *A school district or charter school may hire an applicant for a position as a school social worker if the candidate:*

(a) *Submits a current, valid renewable, unencumbered license from the Nevada Board of Examiners for Social Workers;*

(b) *Submits a receipt that they have applied for a Nevada educator license;*

(c) *Has cleared a fingerprint background check with the Department of Public Safety as described in NRS 391.104; and*

(d) *Is not otherwise prohibited from being employed as a school social worker in this state.*

2. *If the candidate meets the requirements of section 1, a school district or charter school may place the candidate in an assignment that is commensurate with the candidate's Nevada State Board license for up to one year not to exceed the length of the current school year in which the candidate was hired.*

- 3. The school district or charter school shall notify the Department on a form prescribed by the Department each time an employee is hired without a Nevada educator license pursuant to this regulation.*
- 4. The school district or charter school shall immediately discontinue employment with an employee who was hired and placed in assignment if the employee does not submit a valid Nevada educator license to their employer upon receipt from the Department.*