

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

LCB File No. R051-13

Effective October 23, 2013

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 385.080 and 391.019.

A REGULATION relating to educational personnel; revising provisions relating to the renewal of an endorsement to serve as a social worker in schools; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Section 1. NAC 391.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.320 1. To receive an endorsement to serve as a social worker, a person must:

- (a) Hold a current license issued by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers; and
- (b) Have completed an educational program for social workers in schools which includes a practicum in schools.

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

(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. To renew the endorsement, the holder must:

(a) ~~Have completed at least 6 semester hours in education relating to social work in schools or an equal amount of credit for in-service work relating to social work in schools; and~~
~~(b)~~ Continue to hold a valid license issued by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers ~~(b)~~
; and

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

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

**LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF ADOPTED REGULATIONS AS REQUIRED
BY ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT, NRS 233B.066
LCB File No. R051-13**

Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.320 – Endorsement to Serve as Social Worker.

INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

1. A clear and concise explanation of the need for the adopted regulation.

The need for adopting the regulation is to allow school social workers to better serve students and their families and increase the effectiveness of school social workers. This proposed regulation would ensure equality between the educational endorsements of social workers, school nurses, school psychologists, as well as psychologists and those requiring an endorsement for speech and language impairments must maintain their license with their individual state boards in lieu of the six renewal credits required by the Department of Education. Allowing school social worker continuing education units to be used in lieu of the six professional development units will ensure school social workers are educated about current social work issues, resources, and treatment options that are presently available.

2. Description of how public comment was solicited, a summary of public response, and explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulations was sent to approximately 200 individuals and educational organizations. A workshop was held on May 8, 2013; with public comment.

The Notice of Intent to Act Upon a Regulation for public hearing and adoption was sent to approximately 200 individuals and educational organization. A public hearing was conducted on October 17, 2013 to provide the opportunity for comments by affected parties and the public. There was no public comment. The Commission on Professional Standards in Education adopted the proposed regulation.

Summary of Comments:

Workshop comments:

- (a) Tonya Hernandez, a licensed clinical social worker and employed by the Clark County School District as a school social worker, requested the removal of the six hours of professional development and accept a valid social worker state license, as proof of continuing education, issued by the Nevada Board of Examiners for Social

- Workers. The amendment will allow school social workers to better serve students and their families and increase the effectiveness of school social workers. There are currently 28 school social workers in the State of Nevada, all located in Clark County and all 28 school social workers have signed a petition in favor of the amendment.
- (b) Claudia Rockmaker, a licensed clinical social worker and employed by the Clark County School District as a school social worker, echoed Ms. Hernandez' comments and stated that professional development offered by Clark County School District for a K-12 endorsement are intended to increase the educational quality of teachers, not necessarily to increase the educational knowledge needed to maintain an endorsement as a school social worker.
 - (c) Andre Yates, Clark County School District, requested additional time to work with the school social workers and the Nevada Department of Education on this proposal.

Public hearing comments:

There were no public hearing comments.

A copy of the summary and/or minutes of the public hearing may be obtained by contacting Christina Harper, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Department of Education, 775-687-9226, or by writing to the Nevada Department of Education at 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5096.

3. The Number of Persons Who:

- a) Attended Each Hearing: First Workshop: 19; First Hearing: 20
- b) Testified at Each Hearing: First Workshop: 0; First Hearing: 0
- c) Submitted Written Statements: First Workshop: 0; Second Workshop: 0

4. For each person identified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of number 3 above, the following information if provided to the agency conducting the hearing: (a) name; (b) telephone number; (c) business address; (d) business telephone number; (e) electronic mail address; and (f) name of entity or organization represented.

- (a) Tonya Hernandez, a licensed clinical social worker and school social worker for the Clark County School District.
- (b) Claudia Rockmaker, a licensed clinical social worker and school social worker for the Clark County School District.
- (c) Andre Yates, Clark County School District.

5. A description of how comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of the response and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Comments were solicited through the workshop notice of April 18, 2013, and a public hearing notice of September 9, 2013. At the May 8, 2013 Workshop to Solicit Comments, there were public comments to the proposed regulation. At the October 17, 2013 public hearing there was no public comment to the proposed regulation.

A copy of the summary and/or minutes of the public hearing may be obtained by contacting Christina Harper, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Department of Education, 775-687-9226, or by writing to the Nevada Department of Education at 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5096.

6. If the regulation was adopted without changing any part of the proposed regulation, a summary of the reasons for adopting the regulation without change.

The Commission on Professional Standards in Education adopted the proposed regulation language at the public hearing held October 17, 2013. The comments received were in support of the proposed regulation and the proposed regulation was adopted without further amendments.

7. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public.

- (a) Estimated economic effect on the business which they are to regulate.

There is an economic effect on the business it regulates, as school social workers will no longer be required to pay for and obtain the six semester hours in education coursework to renew their license.

- (b) Estimated economic effect on the public which they are to regulate.

There is no economic effect on the public

8. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation.

There is no additional cost to the agency for enforcement of this regulation.

9. A description of any regulations of other State or governmental agencies which the proposed regulation overlaps or a statement explaining why the duplication or overlap is necessary. If the regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the name of the regulating federal agency.

No other state or governmental agency regulations will be overlapped or duplicated by the above noted regulation. There is no duplication or overlap of federal regulations.

There is no federal law affecting the proposed regulations.

10. If the regulation includes provisions that are more stringent than a federal regulation that regulates the same activity, a summary of such provisions.

The regulation does not include provisions that are more stringent than federal regulation.

11. If the regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used.

This regulation does not provide for a new fee or increase an existing fee.