

505-2-.147 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

Nature of Amendment(s):

☒ Substantive
☐ Clarification
☐ Further Definition

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.205 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, dated October 15, 2012, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same name and new number be INITIATED. The new rule reflects changes and new Certification Rule numbering due to tiered certification, as well as consistency of language.

(1) Initial Certificate Requirements.

(a) Professional Certificate (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE):

1. An applicant is eligible for a Standard Professional certificate in the field of School Social Work based on meeting Georgia's Special Georgia requirements (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.24 SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS) and one of the following options:

(i) Complete a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution, and pass or exempt the Program Admission assessment;

(ii) Complete a state-approved certification preparation program in School Social Work at the master's degree level – level five (5) – or higher; or

(iii) Hold a valid State of Georgia Master Social Worker's or Clinical Social Worker's license issued by the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, O.C.G.A. Title 43.

(b) Non-Renewable Professional Certificate (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.09 NON-RENEWABLE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE):

1. Non-Renewable Professional certificates in the field of School Social Work are issued at the request of the employing Georgia local unit of administration (LUA) in the following circumstances:

(i) The applicant has satisfied all other Standard Professional certificate requirements except that the highest degree held is in Social Work at the bachelor's degree level – level four (4) – for completion of the options outlined in (1)(a);

(ii) The applicant currently holds a renewable professional certificate in any field at a level four (4) or higher and presents verification of acceptance into either a state-approved certification preparation program in School Social Work at the master's degree level or higher or a GaPSC-accepted accredited Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree program for completion of the options outlined in (1)(a); or

(iii) The applicant holds an expired Georgia Standard Professional or Clear Renewable School Social Work Certificate but has not met renewal requirements outlined in section (5) below.

(2) Certificates Not Issued. The GaPSC does not issue the following certificates for this field:

- (a) Induction Certificate (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE);
- (b) International Exchange Certificate (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.11 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CERTIFICATE);
- (c) Permit (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.10 PERMIT CERTIFICATE); and
- (d) Adjunct License (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.15 ADJUNCT LICENSE).

(3) To Add the Field (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.34 ADD A FIELD).

(4) To Upgrade the Level (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.33 CERTIFICATE UPGRADE).

(5) Renewal Requirements (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS)

(a) To renew a Professional School Social Work Certificate, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Have the employing Georgia LUA request the renewal. This requirement does not apply to renewal applications submitted prior to July 1, 2015, or renewal of professional certificates held by educators who have at least one (1) year of acceptable educator experience in a Georgia LUA, as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.25 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS, paragraph (3)(a)1, while holding a valid Georgia renewable, professional certificate; and

2. Fulfill one of the following:

(i) Complete renewal requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS; or

(ii) Hold a valid State of Georgia Master Social Worker's or Clinical Social Worker's license issued by the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, O.C.G.A. Title 43.

(6) In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.40 IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT)

(a) Individuals certified in School Social Work are in-field to serve as School Social Workers in grades P-12.

Authority O.C.G.A. 20-2-200