

505-2-.147 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

Nature of Amendment(s):

Substantive
 Clarification
 Further Definition

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.147 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, dated July 1, 2014, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same number and title be INITIATED to reorganized and clarify requirements to qualify for certification in School Social Work.

(1) Summary: This rule outlines the requirements and procedures for issuance of the service certificate in School Social Work P-12, which allows individuals certified in this field to assist with mental health and behavioral concerns, provide positive behavioral, academic, and classroom support in consultation with teachers, parents, and administrators to promote student achievement.

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

(a) Issuance.

1. An individual is eligible for a Standard Professional certificate in the field of School Social Work based on meeting one of the following requirements:
 - (i) Completion of a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution, and pass or exempt the GACE Program Admission assessment;
 - (ii) Completion of a state-approved certification preparation program in School Social Work at the master's degree level – level five (5) – or higher; or
 - (ii) Submission of 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.
2. Meet Standards of Conduct; and
3. Apply for certification following procedures outlined in Rule 505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

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

(a) A Non-Renewable Professional certificate in the field of School Social Work may be issued at the request of an employing Georgia local unit of administration (LUA) in the following scenarios:

1. A Three (3)-year Non-Renewable Professional certificate in the field of School Social Work may be issued to an individual who currently holds a renewable professional certificate in any field at a level four (4) or higher for completion of the options outlined in (2)(a).
2. A One (1)-year Non-Renewable Professional certificate in the field of School Social Work may be issued to an individual who holds an expired Georgia Clear Renewable or Professional School Social Work but has not met renewal requirements outlined in section (7) below.

(4) Additional Certificate Title Issued in the Field.

(a) Retired Educator (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.44 RETIRED EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE).

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

(a) To add School Social Work to an existing certificate in any field, an applicant must complete a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution.

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

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

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

1. Complete renewal requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS; or
2. Submission of 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.

(8) 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