

505-2-.147 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.
 - (iii) 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.
3. Apply for certification following procedures outlined in Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES](#).

(3) Non-Renewable Professional Requirements (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 one of the following options:
 1. Complete renewal requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS](#).
 2. Submit 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.

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