

WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

West Virginia school social workers are licensed professionals who serve as a link between school and community to promote and support students' academic and social success.



WHO ARE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS?

School Social Workers are trained mental health professionals with a degree who provide services related to a person's social, emotional, and life adjustment to school and/or society. School Social Workers are the link between the home, school and community in providing direct as well as indirect services to students, families and school personnel to promote and support students' academic and social success.



SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER QUALIFICATIONS

- **Hold a social worker license with, at minimum, a bachelor's degree from an accredited program**
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- **Meet the state licensure standards**
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- **Fulfill continuing education requirements through professional development required by the WV Board of Social Work (WVBSW)**
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- **Uphold National Association of Social Work ethical standards**

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S ROLE

Services to students include:

- provide crisis intervention
- develop intervention strategies to increase academic success
- help with conflict resolution and anger management
- help develop social-emotional skills
- develop alternative education programs for students who have dropped out, truant, or experiencing behavioral barriers to education
- identify and report child abuse and neglect
- provide prevention programs for school violence, substance abuse, & teen pregnancy
- obtain and coordinate community resources to meet students' needs

Services to school personnel include:

- collaborate with the school leadership team to ensure well-being and success for all students
- develop staff in-service training programs
- assist teachers with classroom management
- work closely with other professional student support personnel to provide a coordinated approach to counseling and interventions

Services to districts include:

- help assess school climate and develop school safety plans
- help school districts receive adequate support from social and mental health agencies
- coordinate systems of care to provide wrap-around services

Services to parents/families include:

- interview the family to assess problems affecting the child's education
- work with parents to facilitate support in their child's school adjustment
- alleviate family stress for the child to function more effectively in school

IDEAL



CASELOAD



School Social Work Association of America



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WEST VIRGINIA SOCIAL WORKERS EDUCATION AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

§30-30-15. Scope of practice for a Licensed Social Worker (LSW)

- (a) A licensed social worker may perform all duties within the scope of practice of a provisional social worker as well as:
1. apply social work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics and the professional use of self in social work practice including assessment, planning, intervention, counseling, evaluation, and case management supervision
 2. provide social advocacy activities, designed to influence social service systems and social policies in the direction of reduced disparities in social and distributive justice, especially for at risk and socially or economically disadvantaged populations
 3. community organization activities, designed to assist client systems at the community level to achieve desirable social or policy change toward goals of enhanced civic functioning and improved environmental responsiveness to client quality of life issues
 4. administration and program development, designed to develop, structure and, oversee social service systems at the organizational level
 5. training activities, designed to assist clients or client systems with skill development deemed desirable to restore or enhance social functioning or adaptation; or, to assist less experienced social workers with professional skill development
- (b) A licensed social worker with a baccalaureate degree or master's degree in social work from a program accredited by the council on social work education and two years of experience, may supervise a provisionally licensed social worker.

§30-30-13. Scope of practice for a Licensed Graduate Social Worker (LGSW)

A licensed graduate social worker has completed a master's degree from an accredited College of Social Work program and may perform all duties within the scope of practice of a licensed social worker and provisional social worker as well as:

1. appropriately conduct social work education, formally teaching social work theory and methodology to bachelor's and master's level social work students
2. conduct clinical or psychotherapeutic service§30-30-11. Scope of practice for a Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSWs), under the clinical supervision of another experienced and credentialed behavioral health professional, including individual, family and group methodologies

§30-30-11. Scope of practice for a Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW)

A licensed certified social worker may:

1. perform all duties within the scope of practice of a licensed graduate social worker and licensed social worker
2. apply social work theory and methods to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of psychological dysfunction, disability or impairment, including emotional and mental disorders and developmental disabilities
3. determine behavioral health diagnosis, using diagnostic taxonomies commonly accepted across disciplines§30-30-9. Scope of practice for a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW). among behavioral health professionals

§30-30-9. Scope of practice for a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW).

A clinical social worker may:

1. perform all duties within the scope of practice of a licensed certified social worker, licensed graduate social worker, and licensed social worker
2. apply social work theory, methods, assessment, ethics and the professional use of self to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of psychological dysfunction, disability or impairment, including emotional and mental disorders and developmental disabilities
3. clinical social work practice is based on knowledge of one or more theories of biological, psychological and social development, normal human behavior, psychopathology, the causes and effects of physical illness and disability, unconscious motivation, interpersonal relationships, family dynamics, environmental stress, social systems and cultural diversity with particular attention to the person existing as a combination of biological, psychological and social elements in his or her environment
4. clinical social work includes interventions directed to interpersonal interactions, intrapsychic dynamics and life-support and management issues
5. clinical social work services consist of assessment, diagnosis, treatment, including psychotherapy and counseling, client-centered advocacy, consultation and evaluation (the process of clinical social work is undertaken within the objectives of the social work profession and the principles and values of its code of ethics)