For Those Holding the MSW

and pursuing School Social Work Certification from Education Professional Standards Board

Information for those holding the MSW from a CSWE accredited program preferably earned in the past ten years, those with degrees earned earlier will be considered based on length, type and recency of work experience. To pursue the Kentucky School Social Work Certificate issued by the Education Professional Standards Board the student must follow one of the two routes below:

Route I
For those who have an offer of a school social work position
To receive Provisional School Social Work Certification from the Professional Education Standards Board you start by being accepted to the school social work preparation program (application on-line at the school social work web-site). www.uky.edu/socialwork/schoolsocialwork

scroll down to the application, complete and submit, it will go to the coordinator. In order to take the required classes (see highlighted below) you must apply on-line to the *graduate school as a school social work graduate certificate student by their deadline and register for classes as they direct. The only documents required are transcripts, no references and no GRE scores. When asked if you've taken the GRE indicate no or it will ask for the score (glitch in the system). For assistance with the Graduate application contact Suzanne.anandappa@uky.edu in the graduate school office. While working under the provisional certificate, the first year of experience as a school social worker serves as a waiver from the practicum requirement. There are documents needed for the required portfolio before one completes the program, see portfolio document at website.

Route II
To start, you must be accepted to the school social work preparation program (see website information above in bold), then apply to the *graduate school as a school social work certificate student by their deadlines and complete the 9 hours of course work (see below). In addition you must submit a letter from an employer to document a year of professional post graduate work experience with families and children for a waiver from the school social work practicum classes. There are forms and documents needed to complete your portfolio, see portfolio requirements at SSW web-site above. Once your portfolio/file and coursework are complete you will be eligible to apply for the Professional School Social Work Certificate, the coordinator will assist you.

The 9 hours required for SSW certification for those holding the MSW are SW616 Social Work Practice in the School Setting, SW580 Mental Health Assessment and Interventions for Children and Adolescents and EDS516 Behavior Management and Instruction. You can read the descriptions for these courses at the school social work web-site. (see above) Remember, regardless of the route you take you must first be accepted to the school social work preparation program by completing the application at the web-site and submitting the statement of interest mentioned on the application. SW616 is only offered in summers. Check out the class schedule on the main UK web-site for information on when the other classes are offered. In addition to the courses students must document how they meet the entry level NASW School Social Work Standards, the coordinator will provide you with the standards and instructions for documenting. It will be necessary to meet with the coordinator twice.

I am available to meet with students interested in the school social work preparation program. Contact me at 859-257-8233 or lankste@uky.edu

Flo Lankster, MSW, CSSW.
SSW program Coordinator

*Note: If a student does not take the classes in consecutive semesters he/she must reapply to the graduate school (pay $65.00) or request a leave. To request a leave contact you must MSW admissions officer before the end of the semester of current enrollment.

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