

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Clinical Social Work and Social Work  
5 Practice Act is amended by changing Sections 5 and 9 and by  
6 adding Section 8.2 as follows:

7 (225 ILCS 20/5) (from Ch. 111, par. 6355)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

9 Sec. 5. Powers and duties of the Department. Subject to  
10 the provisions of this Act, the Department shall exercise the  
11 following functions, powers, and duties:

12 (1) Conduct or authorize examinations or examination  
13 alternatives to ascertain the qualifications and fitness  
14 of candidates for a license to engage in the independent  
15 practice of clinical social work, pass upon the  
16 qualifications of applicants for licenses, and issue  
17 licenses to those who are found to be fit and qualified.

18 (2) Adopt rules required for the administration and  
19 enforcement of this Act.

20 (3) Adopt rules for determining approved undergraduate  
21 and graduate social work degree programs and prepare and  
22 maintain a list of colleges and universities offering such  
23 approved programs whose graduates, if they otherwise meet

1 the requirements of this Act, are eligible to apply for a  
2 license.

3 (4) Prescribe forms to be issued for the  
4 administration and enforcement of this Act consistent with  
5 and reflecting the requirements of this Act and rules  
6 adopted pursuant to this Act.

7 (5) Conduct investigations related to possible  
8 violations of this Act.

9 (6) Maintain rosters of the names and addresses of all  
10 persons who hold valid licenses under this Act. These  
11 rosters shall be available upon written request and  
12 payment of the required fee.

13 (Source: P.A. 102-326, eff. 1-1-22.)

14 (225 ILCS 20/8.2 new)

15 Sec. 8.2. Examination alternative.

16 (a) An applicant who, on or after the effective date of  
17 this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly or within 5  
18 years before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the  
19 103rd General Assembly, has taken but has not successfully  
20 completed an examination to ascertain the qualifications and  
21 fitness of candidates for a license to engage in the  
22 independent practice of clinical social work may use an  
23 examination alternative to allow the Department to ascertain  
24 the qualifications and fitness of candidates for a license to  
25 engage in the independent practice of clinical social work.

1       (b) The examination alternative shall consist of at least  
2       3,000 hours of supervised professional experience that is  
3       obtained within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding  
4       the date of application and after the degree is obtained as  
5       established by rule. If no supervision by a licensed clinical  
6       social worker is available, then supervised professional  
7       experience may include supervision by other appropriate  
8       disciplines as defined by rule.

9       (c) The examination alternative supervised professional  
10       experience shall be in addition to any other supervised  
11       clinical professional experience required for licensure.

12       (d) Beginning January 1, 2026, an applicant acquiring the  
13       examination alternative supervised professional experience  
14       must be a licensed social worker or licensed in this State for  
15       the practice of school social work prior to acquiring the  
16       supervised professional experience.

17       (225 ILCS 20/9) (from Ch. 111, par. 6359)

18       (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

19       Sec. 9. Qualifications for clinical social worker license.  
20       A person shall be qualified to be licensed as a clinical social  
21       worker if that person:

22             (1) has applied in writing on the prescribed form;

23             (2) is of good moral character. In determining good  
24       moral character, the Department may take into  
25       consideration whether the applicant was engaged in conduct

1 or actions that would constitute grounds for discipline  
2 under this Act;

3 (3) (a) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the  
4 Department that subsequent to securing a master's degree  
5 in social work from an approved program the applicant has  
6 successfully completed at least 3,000 hours of  
7 satisfactory, supervised clinical professional  
8 experience; or

9 (b) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Department  
10 that such applicant has received a doctor's degree in  
11 social work from an approved program and has completed at  
12 least 2,000 hours of satisfactory, supervised clinical  
13 professional experience subsequent to the degree;

14 (4) has passed the examination for the practice of  
15 clinical social work as authorized by the Department or  
16 has completed the examination alternative set forth in  
17 Section 8.2; and

18 (5) has paid the required fees.

19 (Source: P.A. 100-414, eff. 8-25-17.)