

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. 850 Department : Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

Rule No. 850-X-2-.01 Definitions of Terms
 New X Amend Repeal Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? No

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? No

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly Or indirectly increasing the cost of any goods or Services involved and, if so, to what degree? No

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NA

Are the facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

.....
Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with the subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

.....

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer Brenda Jordan

Date 7-12-16

(DATE FILED)
(STAMP)

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME:

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE:

850-X-2-.01 Definitions of Terms

INTENDED ACTION:

Inserting opinions as changed in the law and removing unnecessary wording

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Deleting outdated information and inserting opinions and removing reference to 850-X-1-.19

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

A Public Hearing will be held September 8, 2016, 9:30AM, 100 North Union Street, Suite 300, Montgomery AL 36104

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

Written comments may be sent to Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners at: 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery AL 36130-1620. All written comments must be received by 4:30PM September 7, 2016.

CONTRACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Brenda W. Holden, 334/242-5860



Signature of Officer

CHAPTER 850-X-2
DEFINITIONS

850-X-2-.01 Definitions of Terms.

(1) To the extent not defined within these rules and regulations, Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-1 (1991) also provides for definitions of the following terms: Board; Social Work; Social Work Practice; Social Work Specialty; Social Work Method; Full-Time Social Work; Part-Time Social Work.

(2) **Social Work Practice.** The Board defines social work practice as including both direct and indirect practice. Direct practice includes the delivery of services to individuals, families, groups, and communities. Indirect practice includes conducting research into problems of human behavior and conflict, and applying principles and techniques of consultation, social planning, administration, and supervision. The teaching of social work by an individual employed in social work education and presenting him/herself to the public as a social worker is considered social work practice.

(3) **Social Work Method.** Areas of practice methods include the following:

(a) **Social Casework.** A method of helping people based on knowledge, understanding, and the use of techniques skillfully applied to helping individuals solve and manage problems. It is individualized and although scientific, i.e., derives its understanding from the disciplines of science, also includes artistic effort. It helps individuals with personal as well as external environmental difficulties. It is a matter of helping through a relationship that taps personal and other resources for coping with problems. Interviewing is a major tool of social casework.

(b) **Clinical Social Work Practice.**

1. Clinical social work shares with all social work practice the goal of enhancement and maintenance of psychosocial functioning of individuals, families, and small groups. Clinical social work practice is the professional application of social work theory and methods to the treatment and prevention of psychosocial dysfunction, disability, or impairment, including emotional and mental disorders. It is based on knowledge of one or more theories of human development within a psychosocial context. The perspective of person-in-situation is central to clinical social work practice. ~~Clinical social work includes interventions directed to interpersonal interactions, intrapsychic dynamics, and life support and management issues.~~

2. Clinical social work services consist of assessment; diagnostic impression; treatment, including psychotherapy and counseling; client-centered advocacy; and evaluation. It includes direct client intervention, client centered supervision and client centered consultation. It involves the scientific, artful, ethical application of social work theories and methods of assessment, opinions, diagnostic impression, prevention and treatment. Assessment of interpersonal relationships, mental health status, family dynamics, environmental stresses and supports, social systems and the impact of physical, emotional and mental illness and disability on functioning are the emphasis of clinical social work practice.

3. Clinical social work also includes crisis intervention, case management and client centered advocacy. Treatment methods are designed to provide the client and opportunity to express himself or herself, and foster an atmosphere of candid self observation,

expectations of change and amenability to the social worker's efforts to facilitate such change.

4. The primary focus of the clinical social worker is on the needs, interests and welfare of the client. The goal of clinical social work practice is to relieve a client's psychosocial distress; to help the client to modify barriers that are preventing the client from realizing his or her human potential or enjoying rewarding interpersonal relationships; and to improve the overall functioning of the client. The basic value postulates of social work practice are essential to the process.

(c) **Community Organization.** A conscious process of social interaction and method of social work concerned with bringing about and maintaining adjustment between needs and resources in a community or other areas; helping people to deal more effectively with their problems and objectives by helping them develop, strengthen and maintain qualities of participation, self-direction and cooperation, and bringing about changes in community and group relationships and in the distribution of decision-making power. The community is the primary client in community organizations. The community may be an organization, neighborhood, city, county, state or national entity.

~~(d) **Social Work Research.** The professional study of human capabilities and practice of social work specialties, including direct and indirect practice, through the formal organization and the methodology of data collection and the analysis and evaluation of social work data.~~

~~(e) **Social Work Administration.** The practice concerned primarily with translating laws, technical knowledge and administrative rulings into organizational goals and operational policies to guide organizational behavior; designing organizational structure and procedures or processes through which social work goals can be achieved; and securing resources in the form of material, staff, clients and societal legitimation necessary for goal attainment and organizational survival.~~

(4) **Psychosocial Assessment.** The determination of psychosocial functioning involves a comprehensive process, assessment and evaluation conducted by the social worker in order to learn about the client. It includes four levels of analysis: the individual; the interpersonal system; the family unit and the family's interchange with its social network; and other environmental or ecological factors. Interviewing is the major tool of psychosocial assessment. Psychosocial assessment does not include making diagnoses, nor interpreting of psychological tests.

(5) **Psychotherapy.** A specialized, formal interaction between a social worker and a client (individual, couple, family or group) in which a therapeutic relationship is established to help resolve symptoms of mental disorder, psychosocial stress, relationship problems and difficulties in coping in the social environment.

(6) **Counseling.** Counseling is to render evaluation and therapy that includes, but is not limited to, providing individual counseling, family counseling, marital counseling, group therapy, group counseling, play therapy, rehabilitation counseling, art therapy, human growth and development counseling, couples counseling, chemical abuse or dependency counseling, career counseling, and vocational disability counseling utilizing specific methods, techniques, or modalities.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-1 (1991); §34-30-57(6) (1991). **History: Repealed and Replaced:** Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; Filed July 19, 2007; effective December 12, 2007 ~~(See Rule 850-X-1-19).~~