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## ***IV. STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES***

### **A. University Policies Affecting Students**

#### **University Policies Affecting Students**

All Students are expected to become familiar with these policies and abide by the rules and regulations explicated in these policy statements. The relevant documents are found at:

*[www.umich.edu/~oscr/policyindex.html](http://www.umich.edu/~oscr/policyindex.html)*

- **Statement of Students Rights and Responsibilities**
- **Student Rights and Student Records**
- **Information Regarding Religious-Academic Conflicts**
- **Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs**
- **Sexual Assault Policy**
- **Policy on Sexual Harassment by Faculty and Staff**
- **Statement on Freedom of Speech and Artistic Expression**
- **Smoking on University Premises**
- **Scheduled Use of Designated Outdoor Common Areas**
- **Dance Party Policy Overview**
- **University Policy Against Hazing**
- **Parking Permits and Options**

## **B. Academic Standing and Discipline**

### **B.1. Conditions Placing Students on Academic Probation**

A student is automatically placed on academic probation when she/he fails to maintain good academic standing. Failure to maintain good academic standing is defined as: (1) having less than a B average, or (2) having accumulated 9 credit hours of incomplete grades, or (3) having a grade of U in Field Instruction, or (4) having a grade of marginal in Foundation Field Instruction (515) or Advanced Field Instruction (691). In cases of initial automatic academic probation the student is informed by letter of the basis for the probation and that a plan must be worked out by the student and her/his advisor to remove the probation. The plan is forwarded to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs for approval. The plan must include specific dates for assessing the student's progress during the semester. If the plan requires notification of certain instructors (e.g., the need to finish an incomplete by a certain date, or do extra work to improve a grade), the Associate Dean notifies the instructors. The approved plan is placed in the student's record, with copies forwarded to both the student and the advisor. If the plan is not approved, the student's status would be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Difficulty. As appropriate, the advisor shall consult with the Office of Student Services regarding special services which the student may need.

### **B.2. Committee on Academic Difficulty**

A Committee on Academic Difficulty is appointed annually by the Executive Committee. It consists of three faculty members and is chaired by the Associate Dean for Educational Programs. It reviews students in academic difficulty and has the authority to disenroll students or allow them to continue in a probationary status. The following situations are subject to review by the Committee on Academic Difficulty:

- a. students who do not have approved plans to remove their probationary status.
- b. Students who receive U grades for any portion of field instruction or a grade of marginal for more than 3 credit hours of field instruction.
- c. Students who fail to maintain good academic standing for two consecutive terms.

If the disposition of a review by the Committee on Academic Difficulty is a recommendation for dismissal from the School and the only method of returning to School is reapplication, at the student's written request within two weeks of being notified of the recommendation of the Committee, the entire Executive Committee will meet to consider the case. At such a meeting the student is permitted to present his or her position fully and freely. The student also may be accompanied by his or her faculty advisor, or another Social Work faculty member chosen by the student, and that faculty member may speak on the student's behalf.

Students who do not adhere to the Social Work Code of Ethics (See Section IV. I.), do not follow agency policy and procedures, or do not conduct themselves in a professional

manner in their field instruction or in the classroom may also be reviewed for academic misconduct (See Section IV.C.).

### **B.3. Registration for Subsequent Terms for Students on Academic Probation**

Prior to the date for early registration for the subsequent term, the student's advisor is required to submit a brief report to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs indicating the progress accomplished. If satisfactory progress has been achieved, the student may be permitted to register, with the approval of the advisor. If the plan has not been followed as approved, the student will not be allowed to register early. Students who remain on academic probation for a second term will not be permitted to register for the subsequent term. If early registration occurs, these students will not be permitted to attend class pending review by the Committee on Students in Academic Difficulty.

### **B.4. Failure to Remove Probationary Status**

When the student fails to remove the probationary status, the Committee on Academic Difficulty reviews the case. The committee will hold a hearing that may include the student's advisor or another faculty member of her/his choice, the student, and the Assistant Dean for Student Services. The committee decides whether to continue the probationary status or to disenroll the student.

If it is decided to continue probationary status, the committee specifies a plan of action with an explicit time table which must be communicated to all the parties involved including the various instructors. The advisor is responsible for implementing the plan, and informs the Associate Dean for Educational Programs regarding its implementation. It is expected that none of the relevant instructors would undertake any independent action without prior consultation with the faculty advisor and the Associate Dean.

## **C. Student Code of Academic and Professional Conduct**

### **Introduction**

As is traditional in a community of graduate professional education, social work students are held to the highest standards of academic and professional conduct.

Unacceptable professional behavior is defined by the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics to which all social work students are expected to adhere (See section IV. I.).

Unacceptable academic behavior includes violations of traditional standards of academic integrity such as cheating, plagiarism and lying, as well prohibitions against sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, misappropriation of equipment, and other violations against persons and property not acceptable in an academic, professional community.

## **I. Definitions of Unacceptable Academic Behavior**

A. Cheating: is an act of fraud or deception by which the offender gains or attempts to gain benefit from the School or its constituents (e.g. faculty, students, administration, field instruction). Examples of this offense include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Lying about the performance of academic work; obtaining a copy of an examination before it is available officially, or learning an examination question before it is officially available;
2. Lying about circumstances presented as an excuse from examinations or other academic work;
3. Submitting the work one has done for one class or project to another class or project without obtaining the informed permission of the second instructor;
4. Misappropriating another student's work;
5. Allowing another person to do all or part of one's work and to submit the work under one's own name;
6. Receiving and rendering unauthorized assistance on an examination or other paper offered for credit; using unauthorized notes, study aids, and/or information from another person on an examination or paper;
7. Misrepresenting financial affairs or the status of family relationships for the purpose of securing financial aid, residency, or some other benefit from the University;
8. Misrepresenting any information required by or offered to the Admissions Office;
9. Plagiarism (see below).

B. Plagiarism: Using or otherwise taking credit for someone else's work or ideas, using the language of another without full and proper quotation or source citation, or implicitly presenting the appropriated words or ideas of another as one's own (also see section IV. J.1.).

C. Property Conversion: Is any taking or destruction of the property of the School, the University, or its faculty, students, or staff and includes, but is not limited to:

1. Stealing or destroying notes, books, papers, audio and video tapes of other students, faculty, or staff;
2. Vandalizing, hiding, or otherwise misappropriating library books;
3. Stealing or destroying other school property.

D. Harassment: Includes any assault upon or threat against a member of the student body, the faculty, or staff of the School or the University, or any other intentional conduct, including stalking, that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational performance or employment or creating an intimidating, or hostile environment for that individual's education, employment, living situation, or participation in a University activity.

E. Sexual Harassment: Sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education, employment, living environment, or participation in a University activity; or
2. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for or a factor in a decision affecting that individual's education, employment, living environment, or participation in a University activity;
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for that individual's employment, education, living environment, or participation in a University activity.

F. Discrimination: In taking actions or making decisions that affect the educational, employment, or living environment of others, social work students are expected to comply with all laws and University policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, handicap, sexual orientation, height and weight, or Vietnam era veteran status.

G. Aiding and Abetting Dishonesty: Providing material, information, or assistance to another person with the knowledge or reasonable expectation that the material, information, or assistance will be used to commit an act that would be prohibited by this code, law, or the NASW Code of Ethics.

H. Falsification of Academic Records and Official Documents: Unauthorized alteration of documents affecting academic or University records or academic standing; falsifying information on an academic record, grade report, letter of permission, petition, clinical record, or any other University document.

I. Inappropriate Use of Computers and Other Facilities: Violating the University's "Conditions of Use Policy", which defines proper and ethical use of computers and is incorporated under these policies and procedures.

J. Falsification of Data: Dishonesty in reporting results, ranging from sheer fabrication of data, improper adjustment of results, and gross negligence in collecting and analyzing data, to selective reporting or omission of conflicting data for deceptive purposes.

## **II. Definitions of Unacceptable Professional Misconduct**

A. Students are expected to adhere to the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics which is hereby incorporated under these policies and procedures and to the policies and procedures of the student's field instruction agency. It is the responsibility of the student to become acquainted with the aforementioned Code and relevant field instruction agency documents.

### **B. Other Unprofessional Conduct**

The commission of a crime as defined by the laws of the State of Michigan or of the United States, especially laws involving the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, laws involving moral turpitude or other felonies and high misdemeanors which implicate the individual's character and fitness to practice as a professional social worker.

## **III. Sanctions for Violations of The Code of Academic and Professional Conduct**

A. It is recognized that the unacceptable behaviors described above are often indications of the student's need for assistance. Each incident and each individual involved is unique and all mitigating circumstances should be considered with each infraction. However, violations of the Code are serious matters and will not be treated lightly. Possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

1. Oral or written disciplinary warning or reprimand. Written warnings or reprimands may be placed in the student's file;
2. Requiring counseling as a condition of return to a program, course of study, or enrollment;
3. Noting misconduct on a student's transcript;
4. Requiring that a course or practicum experience be repeated;
5. Requiring that additional coursework, research, or written assignment be completed;
6. Restitution;
7. Community service;
8. Suspension for a period not to exceed one year with or without stipulated conditions for re-admission to the School. Any courses taken elsewhere during the period of suspension may not be applied toward the social work degree;

9. Permanent Expulsion: A student who has been expelled may apply for re-admission after one year. His or her application will be considered by the Admissions Committee with proper regard for the opportunities of other students seeking admission to the School as well as with regard for seriousness of the offense and the offender's interests in rehabilitation. Upon re-application the Admissions Committee shall have access to any records maintained under these policies and procedures. During the period of expulsion, the offender may not earn or receive credit for application toward the social work degree;
10. Withholding or rescinding the School of Social Work degree;
11. Any other sanction reasonably tailored to prevent and/or avoid the recurrence of the prohibited conduct.

B. Sanctions for violating any of the aforementioned provisions may be imposed only in accordance with the procedures hereinafter set forth. However, nothing in these rules shall be construed to impair:

1. The authority of the faculty members to establish course requirements and to evaluate student performance in a course or the field instruction;
2. The authority of the Dean with respect to any conduct by a student that does not constitute an offense under these rules;
3. The authority of the Dean or other authorized University official to employ such interim measures as he or she may deem appropriate for protecting the safety of individuals or maintaining conditions compatible with the educational process;
4. The authority of the University to employ administrative actions such as hold credits, library fines, and so forth.

#### **IV. Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction under these policies and procedures is as follows:

A. These rules and procedures apply to persons who are or have been enrolled as regular students in the MSW Program including all those in the full-time, part-time, and extended degree programs.

B. In cases of academic misconduct, these rules and procedures shall also apply to persons who are or have been enrolled as Post-MSW students, Not Candidate for Degree students, University Extension Service students enrolled in social work courses, or any other person on a special admissions status in the School of Social Work.

C. Jurisdiction over students enrolled in the Doctoral Program lies with the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies for charges related to academic misconduct. For charges related to professional misconduct during the course of studies leading to the MSW degree or charges not covered by the Rackham academic integrity policy, jurisdiction lies with the School of Social Work.

D. Jurisdiction over students who are or have been enrolled in social work courses as cognates from other schools and colleges within the University lies with those respective units. For students enrolled in dual degree programs between the School of Social Work and another School or College at the University of Michigan jurisdiction lies with the unit(s) in which the alleged misconduct occurred.

E. In the event there is dispute or lack of clarity about which school or college shall take jurisdiction, the Dean of the School of Social Work, in consultation with the General Counsel's Office and the head of any other interested unit, shall decide which procedures to employ.

## **V. Procedures for Processing Alleged Infractions of the Code of Academic and Professional Conduct**

### **A. Reporting Suspected Infractions and Preliminary Procedures**

1. Any person may report an infraction of the Student Code of Academic and Professional Conduct to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs (hereinafter referred to as the Associate Dean) for referral to the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic and Professional Responsibility (hereinafter referred to as the Ad Hoc Committee).
2. The Associate Dean or his or her delegate shall make a preliminary investigation into the allegations. This inquiry may include discussion with all parties involved and such consultation with other persons as the Associate Dean may deem appropriate. As part of this investigation, the Associate Dean shall discuss the charge with the student and the person, if any, chosen by the student to act as his or her advisor in these proceedings.
3. The Associate Dean, at the request of either party or at his or her on discretion may also refer the matter to the School Ombuds for informal resolution before formal hearings are commenced.
4. Unless the Associate Dean determines there is no reasonable basis for invoking these procedures, he or she will inform the alleged offender that the matter is being referred to the Ad Hoc Committee for resolution.
5. The Ad Hoc Committee shall consist of three faculty members, one of whom shall serve as Chair, appointed by the

Associate Dean and at the option of the accused student, one member of the student body, who shall be appointed by the Social Work Student Union or the Doctoral Student Organization depending on the program in which the alleged offender is or was enrolled.

6. The alleged offender will be notified of the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on their appointment and may within three days of such notification object to the Associate Dean to the participation of any member of the Ad Hoc Committee in the deliberations. If the objection is not resolved to the satisfaction of the alleged offender by the Associate Dean, the decision may be appealed to the Dean for final resolution.
7. Such Committee will be appointed within 30 days or as soon thereafter as practicable of the determination by the Associate Dean that a hearing should be conducted. If the appropriate student organization does not or cannot respond to the request for an appointment to the Ad Hoc Committee within 10 days of such request, may appoint the student member.
8. The Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee will notify the student in writing of the charge, setting forth the allegations with specificity and particularity, and offer the student the opportunity to appear at a hearing pursuant to these procedures. The notice shall include a copy of these procedures, and the time and place of the hearing. The student will be provided with a description of all known physical evidence and copies of all relevant documents.
9. The student shall receive two alternative times for a hearing. Should these times not be satisfactory to the student, the Ad Hoc Committee shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the student's preferred time.

#### B. The Hearing

1. The hearing shall be conducted by the Ad Hoc Committee with all members having voting privileges.
2. The student shall have an opportunity to appear before the Ad Hoc Committee and present his or her case. The student may review all documents considered by the Ad Hoc Committee, question all adverse witnesses, offer documentation, and present witnesses. The Ad Hoc Committee shall not be bound by legal rules of evidence and may limit testimony based on redundancy or lack of relevancy.
3. The student may be accompanied at the hearing by a personal advisor, who may be an attorney; however, the advisor may not participate directly in the proceedings, but may only advise the student. If the student so requests, the Ad Hoc Committee may ask a member of the faculty to serve as an advisor to the student.

4. If the student is planning to bring an attorney to these proceedings, he or she must notify the Ad Hoc Committee at least seven days prior to the hearing.
5. The Committee may elect to invite University Counsel to attend the hearing. University Counsel may advise the Ad Hoc Committee but may not otherwise participate in the hearing.
6. If the student fails or declines to appear at the hearing, the Ad Hoc Committee may proceed to hear the case and make findings and recommendations without the student's participation.
7. The complainant may attend the hearing and be asked to provide information.
8. The hearing will be closed to the public and will be recorded by electronic means. The Ad Hoc Committee will deliberate in private and such deliberations will not be recorded. The final report will be recorded in written form, and will contain findings of fact and recommendations for action.
9. The Ad Hoc Committee will forward such report to the Associate Dean, to the student, and to Rackham, if appropriate. Rackham or the School's Executive Committee will receive the report and take action on the recommendations. The student shall be duly informed of the action taken.

## **VI. Appeals**

### **A. First Appeal**

1. The student may appeal the action by the Executive Committee (excluding the Dean) within 30 days of receiving notification. Such appeal must be in writing, setting forth the particularities of the appeal and submitted to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs.
2. Within 30 days thereafter, the Executive Committee (excluding the Dean) will hold a hearing at which time the person appealing the decision may submit an oral and/or written statement setting forth reasons for relief. The Executive Committee (excluding the Dean) has no authority to disturb the findings of fact determined by the Ad Hoc Committee, but may consider only procedural errors and any new evidence presented by the appellant. However, such new evidence will be confined to information which was not reasonably available at the time of the Ad Hoc Committee hearing.
3. Within the 14 days following the hearing the Executive Committee (excluding the Dean) will render an opinion, which

may affirm the prior decision, modify the previously imposed sanctions based on new evidence, or if there were procedural errors, remand the case to the Ad Hoc Committee for further proceedings.

4. Such opinion will be rendered in writing and forwarded to the person appealing and filed with the Associate Dean for Educational Programs.

#### B. Second Appeal

1. The Student may appeal to the Dean for relief from discipline. The Dean shall not disturb the findings of fact contained in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, but he or she may consider any justification for leniency.
2. Such appeal shall be filed with the Dean within 7 days of the decision of the Appeals Board and shall set forth reasons for a plea of leniency.
3. The Dean shall discuss the matter with the student within 30 days of the filing of the appeal and shall render a decision in writing to the student within 30 days of the final appeal meeting with the student.
4. In case the Dean is unavailable for an appeal meeting with the student, he/she may appoint a Special Appeals Officer from among the governing faculty to hear and decide upon the student's plea for leniency.

### VII. Records

A. All documents and testimony recorded and reviewed in the hearing of the Ad Hoc Committee and all materials related to appeals will be placed in a sealed envelope and forwarded to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs for filing. Such materials may be opened only as they may be relevant to the above appeals procedure, required by law, or the student re-applies for admission or otherwise waives their right to privacy in the materials.

B. Any time after five years following the decision or its final appeal, the Dean may order that the record of the case be destroyed. However, matters which are relevant to an individual's character and fitness to practice in the profession of social work may be retained for ten years. (Adopted: 11/17/93)

#### C.1. Non-Academic Conduct Violations

The University has a student code covering non-academic conduct violations entitled, "Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities." Students are responsible for knowing the contents of this document. (See Section IV.A.)

## **D. Student Rights at the School of Social Work**

Students may serve on all standing committees of the School with the exception of the Executive Committee and the Institutional Review Board (which provides technical review of research and training proposals). This participation is on a 50% student/50% faculty basis, plus an additional faculty member who serves as chairperson and votes in case of a tie. *The Faculty Search Committee may include one student enrolled in the Masters degree program and one student enrolled in the Doctoral degree program. The Doctoral committee may include students enrolled in the Doctoral Program.* The Social Work Student Union appoints and coordinates student membership on School committees.

Course evaluations are completed by students in all courses offered by the School each term. A computer printout of past course evaluations is on file in the School of Social Work Library. In addition, the Governing Faculty has approved in principle the desirability of early term feedback as a method of furthering the free flow of ideas in the School community. Faculty members are encouraged to implement an evaluation between the fourth and eighth class sessions to gain a better understanding of how the class is going so that adjustments can be made, where necessary, to improve the educational experience. Evaluations of advisors, liaisons, and the field instruction experience will be requested from students shortly before graduation.

### **D.1. School of Social Work Statement of Student Rights**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Council on Social Work Education, the School has developed and approved the following statement of student rights:

1. The right of protection with due process of the law against prejudiced or capricious academic evaluations; improper disclosure of students' views, beliefs and, political associations; and limitations upon freedom of expression.
2. The right of students to organize in their own interests as students.
3. The right to have representation and participation on standing committees of the School.
4. The right of students, individually or in association with other individuals, to engage freely in off-campus activities, exercising their rights as citizens of community, state, and nation. Students shall not claim to represent the School of Social Work or the University formally unless authorization has been obtained.
5. The right to establish and issue publications free of any censorship or other pressure aimed at controlling editorial policy, with the free selection and removal of editorial staff reserved solely to the organizations sponsoring those publications. Such publications shall not claim to represent the School of Social Work or the University unless authorization has been obtained.

6. The right of students and recognized student organizations to use School of Social Work meeting facilities provided the meeting facilities are used for the purpose contracted, subject only to such regulations as are required for scheduling meeting times and places.
7. The right of students and recognized student organizations to invite and hear speakers of their choice on subjects of their choice.
8. The right to petition through proper channels for changes in curriculum, professional practicum, faculty advisor, and grades, and to petition through channels in cases of grievance.
9. The rights of students who are participating in research or scholarly endeavors under faculty direction as part of their formal academic program to receive appropriate recognition for their contribution to the process.
10. The right of equal opportunity to enjoy these rights without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religious creed, sexual orientation, or political beliefs.
11. Enumeration of certain rights herein shall not be construed as to nullify or limit any other rights possessed by students; on the other hand, exercise of these rights falls within more general University-wide Regental policies.

## **E. Student Records**

Student records are regarded as confidential and are maintained by the School primarily to benefit students in their educational and professional advancement. Students have access to their educational records through the Office of Student Services according to the following policies and procedures governing student records.

### **E.1. Policies and Procedures**

Student and alumni records are maintained by the School of Social Work. With specific and limited exceptions, noted below, the following principles shall serve as guidelines:

- a. The School shall maintain identifiable records or parts thereof only for that period reasonably necessary to serve a basic official function; and while so maintained, such information shall not be shared beyond those implementing its original purposes.
- b. Information contained in the records shall be available to sources outside the University only when authorized by the student, except as indicated in "c" below and item E.3.
- c. The student shall know the nature of the contents of his/her record and shall be notified immediately when disclosure of his/her record is forced by subpoena or is required under the terms of the Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

- d. Students shall have reasonable access to their records insofar as that access does not violate the rights of others, in keeping with the University's policy on "Student Rights and Student Records."
- e. Data maintained solely for research purposes shall not be identifiable as to person.

## **E.2. Procedure for Access to Student Records**

Any student who is or has been enrolled in the School of Social Work who desires to obtain access to his or her educational record should go to the Office of Student Services and sign a "Request Form for Access to Students' Records." At this time, the student should also arrange an appointment with the Freedom of Information Officer (Assistant Director of the Office of Student Services). The right to access includes the right to obtain copies of records at a cost to the student. If the student is requesting copies of specific items from their educational file rather than requesting access to review their entire educational file, an appointment is generally not necessary.

## **E.3. Public Information**

Certain data from student and alumni records shall be deemed to be public information which may be disclosed freely, except if the student indicates in writing to the University Registrar a specific prohibition for the release of such information. Such public information consists of name, home and local address, telephone number, school, class level, major field, dates of attendance, date of actual or anticipated graduation, degree conferred, honors and awards received, participation in recognized activities, and previous school(s) attended.

## **F. Student Organizations**

Students at the School are served by several student organizations. Their representatives meet regularly with the Deans to discuss issues of concern to students. The central student organization is the Social Work Student Union. Students are also served by numerous organizations such as the Association of Black Social Work Students, Student Organization of Latina/o Social Workers, the Coalition of Asian Social Workers, Social Work International, Rainbow Network, Sigma Phi Omega (Gerontological Social Work Honor Society), Social Welfare Action Alliance, School Social Work Group, Women's Action Coalition, and the Doctoral Student Organization. These and other student organizations regularly announce their activities and invite students to participate.

## **G. Financial Aid**

### **G.1. Policies**

All departmental financial aid decisions are made by the Office of Student Services based on priorities established by the Governing Faculty of the School of Social Work and on the requirements of a particular grant or scholarship. Financial Aid from the School of Social Work is limited to full-time students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States. For financial aid purposes, full-time refers to a degree student registered for 12 or more credit hours per term.

Information is disseminated regularly to students by the Office of Student Services regarding the application process and deadlines for application. However, it is the students' responsibility to utilize this information and ensure that all required materials are submitted to the appropriate offices in accordance with any stated deadlines. Students must reapply for financial aid for their second year of study which begins in either Spring/Summer or the Fall. A separate financial aid application is required for the Spring/Summer Term for those students whose curriculum schedule includes Spring/Summer enrollment. Typically, the deadline for continuing students to apply for financial aid for Spring/Summer Term is January 31. The Fall Term financial aid deadline for continuing students is typically April 30.

Financial aid funding for the MSW Program is limited to four terms. No student is eligible for financial aid following the second term on academic probation, pending review by the Committee on Students in Academic Difficulty.

NOTE: Students pursuing dual degree programs cannot receive financial aid awards from both schools/departments simultaneously. The School of Social Work provides a maximum of three terms of financial aid for dual degree students. Advanced Standing students may be limited to two terms of School of Social Work grants/scholarships, if enrolled in a dual degree program. Each school has separate financial aid application procedures, eligibility criteria, and award allocations; therefore, it is important that you plan your dual degree enrollment well in advance of deadlines for financial aid and keep both school's financial aid offices informed of your enrollment plans.

## **G.2. Appeal Process**

- a. A student who feels an error has been made or policy misapplied in a particular case brings the matter to the attention of the Assistant Dean of Student Services through a written request for a revision of the financial aid award or decision. Students are notified of this revision process with the general financial aid information each academic year.
- b. If a student is dissatisfied with the determination regarding a revision request, the matter may be brought before the Associate Dean for Educational Programs for further consideration. The Associate Dean will consult with the Recruitment, Admissions, and Financial Aid Committee regarding any policy matters that cannot be resolved by the Associate Dean. It is anticipated that only on a rare occasion will the Associate Dean need to consult with the faculty/student committee for advice.
- c. Should the student believe that he or she has been treated in an arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory manner, the student may take the matter to the Dean.

## **H. Student Grievances**

### **Hearing Panel:**

A body of the School of Social Work designated the "School of Social Work Grievance Committee" hears student grievances under the following policies and procedures. The Committee shall consist of three faculty members including the chairperson appointed by the Dean with the concurrence of the Executive Committee and three student members appointed by the Student Union or Doctoral Student Organization depending on the program in which the alleged offender is or may be enrolled. Such committee shall be appointed by the Associate Dean for Educational Programs with concurrence of the Executive Committee within two weeks of the receipt of an "intent to grieve" notification to the Associate Dean for Educational Programs. Such notification of "intent to grieve" must be in writing. The Committee shall be authorized to act by majority vote of a quorum of four or more members.

### **Jurisdiction:**

The procedures herein prescribed shall be available to the student members of the School of Social Work or former students within one year of their graduation or disenrollment. These procedures shall be available with respect to complaints including, but not limited to, those that allege (a) a violation of rules and regulations of the School of Social Work; (b) unfair, unreasonable, or otherwise improper rules or regulations of the School of Social Work; (c) discriminatory or capricious grading practices or Field Instruction evaluations.

It is recognized that there may be complaints with regard to institutional administrative relations rather than specific individual grievances. The Grievance Committee shall not have jurisdiction over these matters. Such cases may include: (a) matters concerning relations between the School administration and community agencies; (b) matters concerning relations between the School and the University administration; (c) matters concerning relations between the School and other departments within the University complex.

### **Procedures:**

The Committee shall be authorized to consider and take appropriate action with respect to any matter properly submitted to it. Grievances shall be made by written communication addressed to the Chairperson of the Committee. The communication shall recite all other administrative remedies pursued by the grieving party with respect to the complaint and shall indicate the specific nature of the grievance and the remedy sought. Such complaint may be returned to the grieving party for further specification or clarification. Written statements submitted to the Committee shall become part of the Committee record. These procedures do not preclude informal exploration by the student with the Chairperson or member of the Committee as to matters which may fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

Upon receiving a grievance, the Committee shall make an initial determination based upon such investigation as deemed appropriate, whether (a) the complainant has not exhausted all other appropriate and viable remedies within the School (e.g., through the other party, the adviser, the Dean's office); (b) the subject matter of the complaint falls outside the

jurisdictional scope of these procedures as hereinafter defined; or (c) the complaint is patently frivolous or plainly lacking in merit. The Committee shall decline to assume jurisdiction if it concludes that one of these conditions exists.

If the Committee concludes that it should take jurisdiction, written notice to this effect shall be given to the aggrieved, the party or parties against whom the grievance is filed, and the Dean's office. Except for necessary communications between the Committee, the principal parties to the grievance, and the Dean's office, all written documents submitted and testimony taken by the Committee shall be retained as confidential materials. Such records shall, however, be available to principal parties of the grievance.

**Powers:**

A variety of procedures and courses of action shall be available to the Committee in any matter over which it has taken jurisdiction. The Committee shall have the right to obtain from administrators, the aggrieved, and the party or parties grieved against information or data deemed relevant to the complaint. Procedures shall include: (a) informal mediatory efforts; (b) informal or formal, but normally private, hearings during which the aggrieved and the party or parties grieved against will have the opportunity to present their positions; and (c) the making of findings and recommendations, advisory in nature, on the merits of the protest of complaint. In addition, the Committee shall be authorized to bring the matter to the further attention of the Dean if in its judgment such action is warranted.

**Records:**

All records of closed cases shall be retained in a separate file in the Dean's office and shall be opened only upon authorization of the Committee; such records shall be destroyed after three years from the date of closure. No notation regarding the grievance shall be made in the student's regular record nor in the faculty employment records except as shall be authorized by the Dean as necessary to carry out the recommendations of the Committee.

**I. The Social Worker's Code of Ethics**

Social work students are expected to conduct themselves in all aspects of their school activities in a manner consistent with the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Work. Students who do not adhere to the Code of Ethics may be deemed to have engaged in academic misconduct and can be reviewed by an academic misconduct hearing panel (See Section IV.C.).

# **NASW Code of Ethics**

## **Overview**

**Approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly  
and  
Revised by the 1999 NASW Delegate Assembly**

The NASW Code of Ethics is intended to serve as a guide to the everyday professional conduct of social workers. This Code includes four sections. The first Section, "Preamble," summarizes the social work profession's mission and core values. The second section, "Purpose of the NASW Code of Ethics," provides an overview of the Code's main functions and a brief guide for dealing with ethical issues or dilemmas in social work practice. The third section, "Ethical Principles," presents broad ethical principles, based on social work's core values, that inform social work practice. The final section, "Ethical Standards," includes specific ethical standards to guide social workers' conduct and to provide a basis for adjudication.

If you believe a social work member of NASW is in violation of this Code of Ethics, one of your options is to file a complaint with NASW. Contact your state Chapter for instructions.

*<http://www.naswdc.org/code.htm>*

**Code of Ethics  
of the  
National Association of Social Workers  
Approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly  
and revised by the 1999 NASW Delegate Assembly.**

**Preamble**

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.

Social workers promote social justice and social change with and on behalf of clients. "Clients" is used inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are sensitive to cultural and ethnic diversity and strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice. These activities may be in the form of direct practice, community organizing, supervision, consultation, administration, advocacy, social and political action, policy development and implementation, education, and research and evaluation. Social workers seek to enhance the capacity of people to address their own needs. Social workers also seek to promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals' needs and social problems.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective:

- service
- social justice
- dignity and worth of the person
- importance of human relationships
- integrity
- competence.

This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

**Purpose of the NASW Code of Ethics**

Professional ethics are at the core of social work. The profession has an obligation to articulate its basic values, ethical principles, and ethical standards. The NASW Code of Ethics sets forth these values, principles, and standards to guide social workers' conduct. The Code is relevant to all social workers and social work students, regardless of their professional functions, the settings in which they work, or the populations they serve.

The NASW Code of Ethics serves six purposes:

The Code identifies core values on which social work's mission is based.

The Code summarizes broad ethical principles that reflect the profession's core values and establishes a set of specific ethical standards that should be used to guide social work practice.

The Code is designed to help social workers identify relevant considerations when professional obligations conflict or ethical uncertainties arise.

The Code provides ethical standards to which the general public can hold the social work profession accountable.

The Code socializes practitioners new to the field to social work's mission, values, ethical principles, and ethical standards.

The Code articulates standards that the social work profession itself can use to assess whether social workers have engaged in unethical conduct. NASW has formal procedures to adjudicate ethics complaints filed against its members.\* In subscribing to this Code, social workers are required to cooperate in its implementation, participate in NASW adjudication proceedings, and abide by any NASW disciplinary rulings or sanctions based on it.

\*For information on NASW adjudication procedures, see NASW Procedures for the Adjudication of Grievances.

The Code offers a set of values, principles, and standards to guide decision making and conduct when ethical issues arise. It does not provide a set of rules that prescribe how social workers should act in all situations. Specific applications of the Code must take into account the context in which it is being considered and the possibility of conflicts among the Code's values, principles, and standards. Ethical responsibilities flow from all human relationships, from the personal and familiar to the social and professional.

Further, the NASW Code of Ethics does not specify which values, principles, and standards are most important and ought to outweigh others in instances when they conflict. Reasonable differences of opinion can and do exist among social workers with respect to the ways in which values, ethical principles, and ethical standards should be rank ordered when they conflict. Ethical decision making in a given situation must apply the informed judgment of the individual social worker and should also consider how the issues would be judged in a peer review process where the ethical standards of the profession would be applied.

Ethical decision making is a process. There are many instances in social work where simple answers are not available to resolve complex ethical issues. Social workers should take into consideration all the values, principles, and standards in this Code that are relevant to any situation in which ethical judgment is warranted. Social workers' decisions and actions should be consistent with the spirit as well as the letter of this Code.

In addition to this Code, there are many other sources of information about ethical thinking that may be useful. Social workers should consider ethical theory and principles generally, social work theory and research, laws, regulations, agency policies, and other relevant codes of ethics, recognizing that among codes of ethics social workers should consider the NASW Code of Ethics as their primary source. Social workers also should be aware of the impact on ethical decision making of their clients' and their own personal values and cultural and religious beliefs.

and practices. They should be aware of any conflicts between personal and professional values and deal with them responsibly. For additional guidance social workers should consult the relevant literature on professional ethics and ethical decision making and seek appropriate consultation when faced with ethical dilemmas. This may involve consultation with an agency-based or social work organization's ethics committee, a regulatory body, knowledgeable colleagues, supervisors, or legal counsel.

Instances may arise when social workers' ethical obligations conflict with agency policies or relevant laws or regulations. When such conflicts occur, social workers must make a responsible effort to resolve the conflict in a manner that is consistent with the values, principles, and standards expressed in this Code. If a reasonable resolution of the conflict does not appear possible, social workers should seek proper consultation before making a decision.

The NASW Code of Ethics is to be used by NASW and by individuals, agencies, organizations, and bodies (such as licensing and regulatory boards, professional liability insurance providers, courts of law, agency boards of directors, government agencies, and other professional groups) that choose to adopt it or use it as a frame of reference. Violation of standards in this Code does not automatically imply legal liability or violation of the law. Such determination can only be made in the context of legal and judicial proceedings. Alleged violations of the Code would be subject to a peer review process. Such processes are generally separate from legal or administrative procedures and insulated from legal review or proceedings to allow the profession to counsel and discipline its own members.

A code of ethics cannot guarantee ethical behavior. Moreover, a code of ethics cannot resolve all ethical issues or disputes or capture the richness and complexity involved in striving to make responsible choices within a moral community. Rather, a code of ethics sets forth values, ethical principles, and ethical standards to which professionals aspire and by which their actions can be judged. Social workers' ethical behavior should result from their personal commitment to engage in ethical practice. The NASW Code of Ethics reflects the commitment of all social workers to uphold the profession's values and to act ethically. Principles and standards must be applied by individuals of good character who discern moral questions and, in good faith, seek to make reliable ethical judgments.

## Ethical Principles

The following broad ethical principles are based on social work's core values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. These principles set forth ideals to which all social workers should aspire.

**Value:** Service

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers' primary goal is to help people in need and to address social problems.

Social workers elevate service to others above self-interest. Social workers draw on their knowledge, values, and skills to help people in need and to address social problems. Social workers are encouraged to volunteer some portion of their professional skills with no expectation of significant financial return (pro bono service).

**Value:** Social Justice

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers challenge social injustice.

Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people. Social workers' social change efforts are focused primarily on issues of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice. These activities seek to promote sensitivity to and knowledge about oppression and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers strive to ensure access to needed information, services, and resources; equality of opportunity; and meaningful participation in decision making for all people.

**Value:** Dignity and Worth of the Person

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person.

Social workers treat each person in a caring and respectful fashion, mindful of individual differences and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers promote clients' socially responsible self-determination. Social workers seek to enhance clients' capacity and opportunity to change and to address their own needs. Social workers are cognizant of their dual responsibility to clients and to the broader society. They seek to resolve conflicts between clients' interests and the broader society's interests in a socially responsible manner consistent with the values, ethical principles, and ethical standards of the profession.

**Value:** Importance of Human Relationships

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers recognize the central importance of human relationships.

Social workers understand that relationships between and among people are an important vehicle for change. Social workers engage people as partners in the helping process. Social workers seek to strengthen relationships among people in a purposeful effort to promote, restore, maintain, and enhance the well-being of individuals, families, social groups, organizations, and communities.

**Value:** Integrity

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers behave in a trustworthy manner.

Social workers are continually aware of the profession's mission, values, ethical principles, and ethical standards and practice in a manner consistent with them. Social workers act honestly and responsibly and promote ethical practices on the part of the organizations with which they are affiliated.

**Value:** Competence

**Ethical Principle:** Social workers practice within their areas of competence and develop and enhance their professional expertise.

Social workers continually strive to increase their professional knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice. Social workers should aspire to contribute to the knowledge base of the profession.

## **Ethical Standards**

The following ethical standards are relevant to the professional activities of all social workers. These standards concern (1) social workers' ethical responsibilities to clients, (2) social workers' ethical responsibilities to colleagues, (3) social workers' ethical responsibilities in practice settings, (4) social workers' ethical responsibilities as professionals, (5) social workers' ethical responsibilities to the social work profession, and (6) social workers' ethical responsibilities to the broader society.

Some of the standards that follow are enforceable guidelines for professional conduct, and some are aspirational. The extent to which each standard is enforceable is a matter of professional judgment to be exercised by those responsible for reviewing alleged violations of ethical standards.

### **1. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities to Clients**

#### **1.01 Commitment to Clients**

Social workers' primary responsibility is to promote the well-being of clients. In general, clients' interests are primary. However, social workers' responsibility to the larger society or specific legal obligations may on limited occasions supersede the loyalty owed clients, and clients should be so advised. (Examples include when a social worker is required by law to report that a client has abused a child or has threatened to harm self or others.)

#### **1.02 Self-determination**

Social workers respect and promote the right of clients to self-determination and assist clients in their efforts to identify and clarify their goals. Social workers may limit clients' right to self-

determination when, in the social workers' professional judgment, clients' actions or potential actions pose a serious, foreseeable, and imminent risk to themselves or others.

### **1.03 Informed Consent**

- (a) Social workers should provide services to clients only in the context of a professional relationship based, when appropriate, on valid informed consent. Social workers should use clear and understandable language to inform clients of the purpose of the services, risks related to the services, limits to services because of the requirements of a third-party payer, relevant costs, reasonable alternatives, clients' right to refuse or withdraw consent, and the time frame covered by the consent. Social workers should provide clients with an opportunity to ask questions.
- (b) In instances when clients are not literate or have difficulty understanding the primary language used in the practice setting, social workers should take steps to ensure clients' comprehension. This may include providing clients with a detailed verbal explanation or arranging for a qualified interpreter or translator whenever possible.
- (c) In instances when clients lack the capacity to provide informed consent, social workers should protect clients' interests by seeking permission from an appropriate third party, informing clients consistent with the clients' level of understanding. In such instances social workers should seek to ensure that the third party acts in a manner consistent with clients' wishes and interests. Social workers should take reasonable steps to enhance such clients' ability to give informed consent.
- (d) In instances when clients are receiving services involuntarily, social workers should provide information about the nature and extent of services and about the extent of clients' right to refuse service.
- (e) Social workers who provide services via electronic media (such as computer, telephone, radio, and television) should inform recipients of the limitations and risks associated with such services.
- (f) Social workers should obtain clients' informed consent before audio taping or videotaping clients or permitting observation of services to clients by a third party.

### **1.04 Competence**

- (a) Social workers should provide services and represent themselves as competent only within the boundaries of their education, training, license, certification, consultation received, supervised experience, or other relevant professional experience.
- (b) Social workers should provide services in substantive areas or use intervention techniques or approaches that are new to them only after engaging in appropriate study, training, consultation, and supervision from people who are competent in those interventions or techniques.
- (c) When generally recognized standards do not exist with respect to an emerging area of practice, social workers should exercise careful judgment and take responsible steps (including appropriate education, research, training, consultation, and supervision) to ensure the competence of their work and to protect clients from harm.

### **1.05 Cultural Competence and Social Diversity**

- (a) Social workers should understand culture and its function in human behavior and society, recognizing the strengths that exist in all cultures.

- (b) Social workers should have a knowledge base of their clients' cultures and be able to demonstrate competence in the provision of services that are sensitive to clients' cultures and to differences among people and cultural groups.
- (c) Social workers should obtain education about and seek to understand the nature of social diversity and oppression with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief, religion, and mental or physical disability.

### **1.06 Conflicts of Interest**

- (a) Social workers should be alert to and avoid conflicts of interest that interfere with the exercise of professional discretion and impartial judgment. Social workers should inform clients when a real or potential conflict of interest arises and take reasonable steps to resolve the issue in a manner that makes the clients' interests primary and protects clients' interests to the greatest extent possible. In some cases, protecting clients' interests may require termination of the professional relationship with proper referral of the client.
- (b) Social workers should not take unfair advantage of any professional relationship or exploit others to further their personal, religious, political, or business interests.
- (c) Social workers should not engage in dual or multiple relationships with clients or former clients in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the client. In instances when dual or multiple relationships are unavoidable, social workers should take steps to protect clients and are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries. (Dual or multiple relationships occur when social workers relate to clients in more than one relationship, whether professional, social, or business. Dual or multiple relationships can occur simultaneously or consecutively.)
- (d) When social workers provide services to two or more people who have a relationship with each other (for example, couples, family members), social workers should clarify with all parties which individuals will be considered clients and the nature of social workers' professional obligations to the various individuals who are receiving services. Social workers who anticipate a conflict of interest among the individuals receiving services or who anticipate having to perform in potentially conflicting roles (for example, when a social worker is asked to testify in a child custody dispute or divorce proceedings involving clients) should clarify their role with the parties involved and take appropriate action to minimize any conflict of interest.

### **1.07 Privacy and Confidentiality**

- (a) Social workers should respect clients' right to privacy. Social workers should not solicit private information from clients unless it is essential to providing services or conducting social work evaluation or research. Once private information is shared, standards of confidentiality apply.
- (b) Social workers may disclose confidential information when appropriate with valid consent from a client or a person legally authorized to consent on behalf of a client.
- (c) Social workers should protect the confidentiality of all information obtained in the course of professional service, except for compelling professional reasons. The general expectation that social workers will keep information confidential does not apply when disclosure is necessary to prevent serious, foreseeable, and imminent harm to a client or other identifiable person. In all instances, social workers should disclose the least amount of confidential information necessary to achieve the desired purpose; only information

- that is directly relevant to the purpose for which the disclosure is made should be revealed.
- (d) Social workers should inform clients, to the extent possible, about the disclosure of confidential information and the potential consequences, when feasible before the disclosure is made. This applies whether social workers disclose confidential information on the basis of a legal requirement or client consent
  - (e) Social workers should discuss with clients and other interested parties the nature of confidentiality and limitations of clients' right to confidentiality. Social workers should review with clients circumstances where confidential information may be requested and where disclosure of confidential information may be legally required. This discussion should occur as soon as possible in the social worker-client relationship and as needed throughout the course of the relationship.
  - (f) When social workers provide counseling services to families, couples, or groups, social workers should seek agreement among the parties involved concerning each individual's right to confidentiality and obligation to preserve the confidentiality of information shared by others. Social workers should inform participants in family, couples, or group counseling that social workers cannot guarantee that all participants will honor such agreements.
  - (g) Social workers should inform clients involved in family, couples, marital, or group counseling of the social worker's, employer's, and agency's policy concerning the social worker's disclosure of confidential information among the parties involved in the counseling.
  - (h) Social workers should not disclose confidential information to third-party payers unless clients have authorized such disclosure.
  - (i) Social workers should not discuss confidential information in any setting unless privacy can be ensured. Social workers should not discuss confidential information in public or semipublic areas such as hallways, waiting rooms, elevators, and restaurants.
  - (j) Social workers should protect the confidentiality of clients during legal proceedings to the extent permitted by law. When a court of law or other legally authorized body orders social workers to disclose confidential or privileged information without a client's consent and such disclosure could cause harm to the client, social workers should request that the court withdraw the order or limit the order as narrowly as possible or maintain the records under seal, unavailable for public inspection.
  - (k) Social workers should protect the confidentiality of clients when responding to requests from members of the media..
  - (l) Social workers should protect the confidentiality of clients' written and electronic records and other sensitive information. Social workers should take reasonable steps to ensure that clients' records are stored in a secure location and that clients' records are not available to others who are not authorized to have access.
  - (m) Social workers should take precautions to ensure and maintain the confidentiality of information transmitted to other parties through the use of computers, electronic mail, facsimile machines, telephones and telephone answering machines, and other electronic or computer technology. Disclosure of identifying information should be avoided whenever possible.
  - (n) Social workers should transfer or dispose of clients' records in a manner that protects clients' confidentiality and is consistent with state statutes governing records and social work licensure.

- (o) Social workers should take reasonable precautions to protect client confidentiality in the event of the social worker's termination of practice, incapacitation, or death.
- (p) Social workers should not disclose identifying information when discussing clients for teaching or training purposes unless the client has consented to disclosure of confidential information.
- (q) Social workers should not disclose identifying information when discussing clients with consultants unless the client has consented to disclosure of confidential information or there is a compelling need for such disclosure.
- (r) Social workers should protect the confidentiality of deceased clients consistent with the preceding standards.

### **1.08 Access to Records**

- (a) Social workers should provide clients with reasonable access to records concerning the clients. Social workers who are concerned that clients' access to their records could cause serious misunderstanding or harm to the client should provide assistance in interpreting the records and consultation with the client regarding the records. Social workers should limit clients' access to their records, or portions of their records, only in exceptional circumstances when there is compelling evidence that such access would cause serious harm to the client. Both clients' requests and the rationale for withholding some or all of the record should be documented in clients' files.
- (b) When providing clients with access to their records, social workers should take steps to protect the confidentiality of other individuals identified or discussed in such records.

### **1.09 Sexual Relationships**

- (a) Social workers should under no circumstances engage in sexual activities or sexual contact with current clients, whether such contact is consensual or forced.
- (b) Social workers should not engage in sexual activities or sexual contact with clients' relatives or other individuals with whom clients maintain a close personal relationship when there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the client. Sexual activity or sexual contact with clients' relatives or other individuals with whom clients maintain a personal relationship has the potential to be harmful to the client and may make it difficult for the social worker and client to maintain appropriate professional boundaries. Social workers--not their clients, their clients' relatives, or other individuals with whom the client maintains a personal relationship--assume the full burden for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries.
- (c) Social workers should not engage in sexual activities or sexual contact with former clients because of the potential for harm to the client. If social workers engage in conduct contrary to this prohibition or claim that an exception to this prohibition is warranted because of extraordinary circumstances, it is social workers--not their clients—who assume the full burden of demonstrating that the former client has not been exploited, coerced, or manipulated, intentionally or unintentionally.
- (d) Social workers should not provide clinical services to individuals with whom they have had a prior sexual relationship. Providing clinical services to a former sexual partner has the potential to be harmful to the individual and is likely to make it difficult for the social worker and individual to maintain appropriate professional boundaries.

### **1.10 Physical Contact**

Social workers should not engage in physical contact with clients when there is a possibility of psychological harm to the client as a result of the contact (such as cradling or caressing clients). Social workers who engage in appropriate physical contact with clients are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries that govern such physical contact.

### **1.11 Sexual Harassment**

Social workers should not sexually harass clients. Sexual harassment includes sexual advances, sexual solicitation, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

### **1.12 Derogatory Language**

Social workers should not use derogatory language in their written or verbal communications to or about clients. Social workers should use accurate and respectful language in all communications to and about clients.

### **1.13 Payment for Services**

- (a) When setting fees, social workers should ensure that the fees are fair, reasonable, and commensurate with the services performed. Consideration should be given to clients' ability to pay.
- (b) Social workers should avoid accepting goods or services from clients as payment for professional services. Bartering arrangements, particularly involving services, create the potential for conflicts of interest, exploitation, and inappropriate boundaries in social workers' relationships with clients. Social workers should explore and may participate in bartering only in very limited circumstances when it can be demonstrated that such arrangements are an accepted practice among professionals in the local community, considered to be essential for the provision of services, negotiated without coercion, and entered into at the client's initiative and with the client's informed consent. Social workers who accept goods or services from clients as payment for professional services assume the full burden of demonstrating that this arrangement will not be detrimental to the client or the professional relationship.
- (c) Social workers should not solicit a private fee or other remuneration for providing services to clients who are entitled to such available services through the social workers' employer or agency.

### **1.14 Clients Who Lack Decision-Making Capacity**

When social workers act on behalf of clients who lack the capacity to make informed decisions, social workers should take reasonable steps to safeguard the interests and rights of those clients.

### **1.15 Interruption of Services**

Social workers should make reasonable efforts to ensure continuity of services in the event that services are interrupted by factors such as unavailability, relocation, illness, disability, or death.

## **1.16 Termination of Services**

- (a) Social workers should terminate services to clients and professional relationships with them when such services and relationships are no longer required or no longer serve the clients' needs or interests.
- (b) Social workers should take reasonable steps to avoid abandoning clients who are still in need of services. Social workers should withdraw services precipitously only under unusual circumstances, giving careful consideration to all factors in the situation and taking care to minimize possible adverse effects. Social workers should assist in making appropriate arrangements for continuation of services when necessary.
- (c) Social workers in fee-for-service settings may terminate services to clients who are not paying an overdue balance if the financial contractual arrangements have been made clear to the client, if the client does not pose an imminent danger to self or others, and if the clinical and other consequences of the current nonpayment have been addressed and discussed with the client.
- (d) Social workers should not terminate services to pursue a social, financial, or sexual relationship with a client
- (e) Social workers who anticipate the termination or interruption of services to clients should notify clients promptly and seek the transfer, referral, or continuation of services in relation to the clients' needs and preferences.
- (f) Social workers who are leaving an employment setting should inform clients of appropriate options for the continuation of services and of the benefits and risks of the options.

## **2. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities to Colleagues**

### **2.01 Respect**

- (a) Social workers should treat colleagues with respect and should represent accurately and fairly the qualifications, views, and obligations of colleagues.
- (b) Social workers should avoid unwarranted negative criticism of colleagues in communications with clients or with other professionals. Unwarranted negative criticism may include demeaning comments that refer to colleagues' level of competence or to individuals' attributes such as race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief; religion, and mental or physical disability.
- (c) Social workers should cooperate with social work colleagues and with colleagues of other professions when such cooperation serves the well-being of clients.

### **2.02 Confidentiality**

Social workers should respect confidential information shared by colleagues in the course of their professional relationships and transactions. Social workers should ensure that such colleagues understand social workers' obligation to respect confidentiality and any exceptions related to it.

### **2.03 Interdisciplinary Collaboration**

- (a) Social workers who are members of an interdisciplinary team should participate in and contribute to decisions that affect the well-being of clients by drawing on the perspectives, values, and experiences of the social work profession. Professional and ethical obligations of the interdisciplinary team as a whole and of its individual members should be clearly established.
- (b) Social workers for whom a team decision raises ethical concerns should attempt to resolve the disagreement through appropriate channels. If the disagreement cannot be resolved, social workers should pursue other avenues to address their concerns consistent with client well-being.

### **2.04 Disputes Involving Colleagues**

- (a) Social workers should not take advantage of a dispute between a colleague and an employer to obtain a position or otherwise advance the social workers' own interests.
- (b) Social workers should not exploit clients in disputes with colleagues or engage clients in any inappropriate discussion of conflicts between social workers and their colleagues.

### **2.05 Consultation**

- (a) Social workers should seek the advice and counsel of colleagues whenever such consultation is in the best interests of clients.
- (b) Social workers should keep themselves informed about colleagues' areas of expertise and competencies. Social workers should seek consultation only from colleagues who have demonstrated knowledge, expertise, and competence related to the subject of the consultation.
- (c) When consulting with colleagues about clients, social workers should disclose the least amount of information necessary to achieve the purposes of the consultation.

### **2.06 Referral for Services**

- (a) Social workers should refer clients to other professionals when the other professionals' specialized knowledge or expertise is needed to serve clients fully or when social workers believe that they are not being effective or making reasonable progress with clients and that additional service is required.
- (b) Social workers who refer clients to other professionals should take appropriate steps to facilitate an orderly transfer of responsibility. Social workers who refer clients to other professionals should disclose, with clients' consent, all pertinent information to the new service providers.
- (c) Social workers are prohibited from giving or receiving payment for a referral when no professional service is provided by the referring social worker.

### **2.07 Sexual Relationships**

- (a) Social workers who function as supervisors or educators should not engage in sexual activities or contact with supervisees, students, trainees, or other colleagues over whom they exercise professional authority.

- (b) Social workers should avoid engaging in sexual relationships with colleagues when there is potential for a conflict of interest. Social workers who become involved in, or anticipate becoming involved in, a sexual relationship with a colleague have a duty to transfer professional responsibilities, when necessary, to avoid a conflict of interest.

## **2.08 Sexual Harassment**

Social workers should not sexually harass supervisees, students, trainees, or colleagues. Sexual harassment includes sexual advances, sexual solicitation, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

## **2.09 Impairment of Colleagues**

- (a) Social workers who have direct knowledge of a social work colleague's impairment that is due to personal problems, psychosocial distress, substance abuse, or mental health difficulties and that interferes with practice effectiveness should consult with that colleague when feasible and assist the colleague in taking remedial action.
- (b) Social workers who believe that a social work colleague's impairment interferes with practice effectiveness and that the colleague has not taken adequate steps to address the impairment should take action through appropriate channels established by employers, agencies, NASW, licensing and regulatory bodies, and other professional organizations.

## **2.10 Incompetence of Colleagues**

- (a) Social workers who have direct knowledge of a social work colleague's incompetence should consult with that colleague when feasible and assist the colleague in taking remedial action.
- (b) Social workers who believe that a social work colleague is incompetent and has not taken adequate steps to address the incompetence should take action through appropriate channels established by employers, agencies, NASW, licensing and regulatory bodies, and other professional organizations.

## **2.11 Unethical Conduct of Colleagues**

- (a) Social workers should take adequate measures to discourage, prevent, expose, and correct the unethical conduct of colleagues.
- (b) Social workers should be knowledgeable about established policies and procedures for handling concerns about colleagues' unethical behavior. Social workers should be familiar with national, state, and local procedures for handling ethics complaints. These include policies and procedures created by NASW, licensing and regulatory bodies, employers, agencies, and other professional organizations.
- (c) Social workers who believe that a colleague has acted unethically should seek resolution by discussing their concerns with the colleague when feasible and when such discussion is likely to be productive.
- (d) When necessary, social workers who believe that a colleague has acted unethically should take action through appropriate formal channels (such as contacting a state licensing board or regulatory body, an NASW committee on inquiry, or other professional ethics committees).

- (e) Social workers should defend and assist colleagues who are unjustly charged with unethical conduct.

### **3. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities in Practice Settings**

#### **3.01 Supervision and Consultation**

- (a) Social workers who provide supervision or consultation should have the necessary knowledge and skill to supervise or consult appropriately and should do so only within their areas of knowledge and competence.
- (b) Social workers who provide supervision or consultation are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries.
- (c) Social workers should not engage in any dual or multiple relationships with supervisees in which there is a risk of exploitation of or potential harm to the supervisee.
- (d) Social workers who provide supervision should evaluate supervisees' performance in a manner that is fair and respect.

#### **3.02 Education and Training**

- (a) Social workers who function as educators, field instructors for students, or trainers should provide instruction only within their areas of knowledge and competence and should provide instruction based on the most current information and knowledge available in the profession.
- (b) Social workers who function as educators or field instructors for students should evaluate students' performance in a manner that is fair and respectful.
- (c) Social workers who function as educators or field instructors for students should take reasonable steps to ensure that clients are routinely informed when services are being provided by students.
- (d) Social workers who function as educators or field instructors for students should not engage in any dual or multiple relationships with students in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the student. Social work educators and field instructors are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries.

#### **3.03 Performance Evaluation**

Social workers who have responsibility for evaluating the performance of others should fulfill such responsibility in a fair and considerate manner and on the basis of clearly stated criteria.

#### **3.04 Client Records**

- (a) Social workers should take reasonable steps to ensure that documentation in records is accurate and reflects the services provided.
- (b) Social workers should include sufficient and timely documentation in records to facilitate the delivery of services and to ensure continuity of services provided to clients in the future.
- (c) Social workers' documentation should protect clients' privacy to the extent that is possible and appropriate and should include only information that is directly relevant to the delivery of services.

- (d) Social workers should store records following the termination of services to ensure reasonable future access. Records should be maintained for the number of years required by state statutes or relevant contracts.

### **3.05 Billing**

Social workers should establish and maintain billing practices that accurately reflect the nature and extent of services provided and that identify who provided the service in the practice setting.

### **3.06 Client Transfer**

- (a) When an individual who is receiving services from another agency or colleague contacts a social worker for services, the social worker should carefully consider the client's needs before agreeing to provide services. To minimize possible confusion and conflict, social workers should discuss with potential clients the nature of the clients' current relationship with other service providers and the implications, including possible benefits or risks, of entering into a relationship with a new service provider.
- (b) If a new client has been served by another agency or colleague, social workers should discuss with the client whether consultation with the previous service provider is in the client's best interest.

### **3.07 Administration**

- (a) Social work administrators should advocate within and outside their agencies for adequate resources to meet clients' needs.
- (b) Social workers should advocate for resource allocation procedures that are open and fair. When not all clients' needs can be met, an allocation procedure should be developed that is nondiscriminatory and based on appropriate and consistently applied principles.
- (c) Social workers who are administrators should take reasonable steps to ensure that adequate agency or organizational resources are available to provide appropriate staff supervision.
- (d) Social work administrators should take reasonable steps to ensure that the working environment for which they are responsible is consistent with and encourages compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics. Social work administrators should take reasonable steps to eliminate any conditions in their organizations that violate, interfere with, or discourage compliance with the Code.

### **3.08 Continuing Education and Staff Development**

Social work administrators and supervisors should take reasonable steps to provide or arrange for continuing education and staff development for all staff for whom they are responsible. Continuing education and staff development should address current knowledge and emerging developments related to social work practice and ethics.

### **3.09 Commitments to Employers**

- (a) Social workers generally should adhere to commitments made to employers and employing organizations.

- (b) Social workers should work to improve employing agencies' policies and procedures and the efficiency and effectiveness of their services.
- (c) Social workers should take reasonable steps to ensure that employers are aware of social workers' ethical obligations as set forth in the NASW Code of Ethics and of the implications of those obligations for social work practice.
- (d) Social workers should not allow an employing organization's policies, procedures, regulations, or administrative orders to interfere with their ethical practice of social work. Social workers should take reasonable steps to ensure that their employing organizations' practices are consistent with the NASW Code of Ethics.
- (e) Social workers should act to prevent and eliminate discrimination in the employing organization's work assignments and in its employment policies and practices.
- (f) Social workers should accept employment or arrange student field placements only in organizations that exercise fair personnel practices.
- (g) Social workers should be diligent stewards of the resources of their employing organizations, wisely conserving funds where appropriate and never misappropriating funds or using them for unintended purposes.

### **3.10 Labor-Management Disputes**

- (a) Social workers may engage in organized action, including the formation of and participation in labor unions, improve services to clients and working conditions.
- (b) The actions of social workers who are involved in labor-management disputes, job actions, or labor strikes should be guided by the profession's values, ethical principles, and ethical standards. Reasonable differences of opinion exist among social workers concerning their primary obligation as professionals during an actual or threatened labor strike or job action. Social workers should carefully examine relevant issues and their possible impact on clients before deciding on a course of action.

## **4. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities as Professionals**

### **4.01 Competence**

- (a) Social workers should accept responsibility or employment only on the basis of existing competence or the intention to acquire the necessary competence.
- (b) Social workers should strive to become and remain proficient in professional practice and the performance of professional functions. Social workers should critically examine and keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to social work. Social workers should routinely review the professional literature and participate in continuing education relevant to social work practice and social work ethics.
- (c) Social workers should base practice on recognized knowledge, including empirically based knowledge, relevant to social work and social work ethics.

### **4.02 Discrimination**

Social workers should not practice, condone, facilitate, or collaborate with any form of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief religion, or mental or physical disability.

#### **4.03 Private Conduct**

Social workers should not permit their private conduct to interfere with their ability to fulfill their professional responsibilities.

#### **4.04 Dishonesty, Fraud, and Deception**

Social workers should not participate in, condone, or be associated with dishonesty, fraud, or deception.

#### **4.05 Impairment**

- (a) Social workers should not allow their own personal problems, psychosocial distress, legal problems, substance abuse, or mental health difficulties to interfere with their professional judgment and performance or to jeopardize the best interests of people for whom they have a professional responsibility.
- (b) Social workers whose personal problems, psychosocial distress, legal problems, substance abuse, or mental health difficulties interfere with their professional judgment and performance should immediately seek consultation and take appropriate remedial action by seeking professional help, making adjustments in workload, terminating practice, or taking any other steps necessary to protect clients and others.

#### **4.06 Misrepresentation**

- (a) Social workers should make clear distinctions between statements made and actions engaged in as a private individual and as a representative of the social work profession, a professional social work organization, or the social worker's employing agency.
- (b) Social workers who speak on behalf of professional social work organizations should accurately represent the official and authorized positions of the organizations.
- (c) Social workers should ensure that their representations to clients, agencies, and the public of professional qualifications, credentials, education, competence, affiliations, services provided, or results to be achieved are accurate. Social workers should claim only those relevant professional credentials they actually possess and take steps to correct any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of their credentials by others.

#### **4.07 Solicitations**

- (a) Social workers should not engage in uninvited solicitation of potential clients who, because of their circumstances, are vulnerable to undue influence, manipulation, or coercion.
- (b) Social workers should not engage in solicitation of testimonial endorsements (including solicitation of consent to use a client's prior statement as a testimonial endorsement) from current clients or from other people who, because of their particular circumstances, are vulnerable to undue influence.

#### **4.08 Acknowledging Credit**

- (a) Social workers should take responsibility and credit, including authorship credit, only for work they have actually performed and to which they have contributed.

- (b) Social workers should honestly acknowledge the work of and the contributions made by others.

## **5. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities to the Social Work Profession**

### **5.01 Integrity of the Profession**

- (a) Social workers should work toward the maintenance and promotion of high standards of practice.
- (b) Social workers should uphold and advance the values, ethics, knowledge, and mission of the profession. Social workers should protect, enhance, and improve the integrity of the profession through appropriate study and research, active discussion, and responsible criticism of the profession.
- (c) Social workers should contribute time and professional expertise to activities that promote respect for the value, integrity, and competence of the social work profession. These activities may include teaching, research, consultation, service, legislative testimony, presentations in the community, and participation in their professional organizations.
- (d) Social workers should contribute to the knowledge base of social work and share with colleagues their knowledge related to practice, research, and ethics. Social workers should seek to contribute to the profession's literature and to share their knowledge at professional meetings and conferences.
- (e) Social workers should act to prevent the unauthorized and unqualified practice of social work.

### **5.02 Evaluation and Research**

- (a) Social workers should monitor and evaluate policies, the implementation of programs, and practice interventions.
- (b) Social workers should promote and facilitate evaluation and research to contribute to the development of knowledge.
- (c) Social workers should critically examine and keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to social work and fully use evaluation and research evidence in their professional practice.
- (d) Social workers engaged in evaluation or research should carefully consider possible consequences and should follow guidelines developed for the protection of evaluation and research participants. Appropriate institutional review boards should be consulted.
- (e) Social workers engaged in evaluation or research should obtain voluntary and written informed consent from participants, when appropriate, without any implied or actual deprivation or penalty for refusal to participate; without undue inducement to participate; and with due regard for participants' well-being, privacy, and dignity. Informed consent should include information about the nature, extent, and duration of the participation requested and disclosure of the risks and benefits of participation in the research.
- (f) When evaluation or research participants are incapable of giving informed consent, social workers should provide an appropriate explanation to the participants, obtain the participants' assent to the extent they are able, and obtain written consent from an appropriate proxy.

- (g) Social workers should never design or conduct evaluation or research that does not use consent procedures, such as certain forms of naturalistic observation and archival research, unless rigorous and responsible review of the research has found it to be justified because of its prospective scientific, educational, or applied value and unless equally effective alternative procedures that do not involve waiver of consent are not feasible.
- (h) Social workers should inform participants of their right to withdraw from evaluation and research at any time without penalty.
- (i) Social workers should take appropriate steps to ensure that participants in evaluation and research have access to appropriate supportive services.
- (j) Social workers engaged in evaluation or research should protect participants from unwarranted physical or mental distress, harm, danger, or deprivation.
- (k) Social workers engaged in the evaluation of services should discuss collected information only for professional purposes and only with people professionally concerned with this information.
- (l) Social workers engaged in evaluation or research should ensure the anonymity or confidentiality of participants and of the data obtained from them. Social workers should inform participants of any limits of confidentiality, the measures that will be taken to ensure confidentiality, and when any records containing research data will be destroyed.
- (m) Social workers who report evaluation and research results should protect participants' confidentiality by omitting identifying information unless proper consent has been obtained authorizing disclosure.
- (n) Social workers should report evaluation and research findings accurately. They should not fabricate or falsify results and should take steps to correct any errors later found in published data using standard publication methods.
- (o) Social workers engaged in evaluation or research should be alert to and avoid conflicts of interest and dual relationships with participants, should inform participants when a real or potential conflict of interest arises, and should take steps to resolve the issue in a manner that makes participants' interests primary.
- (p) Social workers should educate themselves, their students, and their colleagues about responsible research practices.

## **6. Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities to the Broader Society**

### **6.01 Social Welfare**

Social workers should promote the general welfare of society, from local to global levels, and the development of people, their communities, and their environments. Social workers should advocate for living conditions conducive to the fulfillment of basic human needs and should promote social, economic, political, and cultural values and institutions that are compatible with the realization of social justice.

### **6.02 Public Participation**

Social workers should facilitate informed participation by the public in shaping social policies and institutions.

### **6.03 Public Emergencies**

Social workers should provide appropriate professional services in public emergencies to the greatest extent possible.

### **6.04 Social and Political Action**

- (a) Social workers should engage in social and political action that seeks to ensure that all people have equal access to the resources, employment, services, and opportunities they require to meet their basic human needs and to develop fully. Social workers should be aware of the impact of the political arena on practice and should advocate for changes in policy and legislation to improve social conditions in order to meet basic human needs and promote social justice.
- (b) Social workers should act to expand choice and opportunity for all people, with special regard for vulnerable, disadvantaged, oppressed, and exploited people and groups.
- (c) Social workers should promote conditions that encourage respect for cultural and social diversity within the United States and globally. Social workers should promote policies and practices that demonstrate respect for difference, support the expansion of cultural knowledge and resources, advocate for programs and institutions that demonstrate cultural competence, and promote policies that safeguard the rights of and confirm equity and social justice for all people.
- (d) Social workers should act to prevent and eliminate domination of, exploitation of, and discrimination against any person, group, or class on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief religion, or mental or physical disability.

## **J. Ethical Conduct in the University Environment**

### **J.1. Plagiarism**

*Plagiarism is taken very seriously* at the University of Michigan and is grounds for expulsion from the University. It is therefore essential for students to understand the meaning of plagiarism. The following was taken from the University of Michigan Libraries Website:

University of Michigan Libraries (www.lib.umich.edu):

#### **PLAGIARISM**

"To use another person's ideas or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source is to plagiarize. Plagiarism, then, constitutes intellectual theft"

This and other quotations used below are all taken from section 1.8 (pages 29-34) of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* by Joseph Gibaldi, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: The Modern Language Association, 1999. Available at the Shapiro Undergraduate Library Reference Desk. PE 1478 .G43 1999.

To plagiarize is to copy text from a book, an article, a friend's paper, or any website without giving credit to the author. Reworking somebody else's sentences with a thesaurus is still . You can change every word in the sentence but if the idea came from someone else, you have plagiarized!

#### **What is the Penalty for Plagiarism?**

"Plagiarism...often carries severe penalties, ranging from failure in a course to expulsion from school."

#### **Do I Have to Footnote Every Fact?**

"If you have any doubt about whether or not you are committing plagiarism, cite your source or sources."

#### **What if I Put Someone Else's Ideas in My Own Words?**

"A writer who fails to give appropriate acknowledgment when repeating another's wording or particularly apt term, paraphrasing another's argument, or presenting another's line of thinking is guilty of plagiarism."

#### **Why Does Plagiarism Matter?**

Careers and reputations have been damaged by findings of plagiarism. Journalists have been fired from the *Sun-Times*<sup>1</sup>, the *Wall Street Journal*<sup>2</sup>, and the *Nashville Tennessean*<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Mark Fitzgerald, "Sun-Times Drops Columnist over Plagiarism." *Editor & Publisher* June 23, 1990:17.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Lazare, "The Kandell Case: Plagiarism at the *Wall Street Journal*?" *Columbia Journalism Review* January-February, 1991:6.

<sup>3</sup> Mark Fitzgerald, "Rash of Plagiarism: *Nashville Tennessean* Fires an Editor, Reprimands Another." *Editor & Publisher*, September 16, 1989:15.

A Harvard Psychiatrist resigned after a finding of plagiarism against him.<sup>4</sup> Art Buchwald sued Paramount Pictures (and won) over the *idea* for the plot of *Coming to America*<sup>5</sup>.

### **Is This Plagiarism?**

Read this passage from the article on Malcolm X by Peter Goldman in *Dictionary of American Negro Biography*, page 422, New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1982.

“In prison Malcolm was introduced by his younger brother Reginald to the teachings of the Lost-Found Nation of Islam, the sect led until 1975 by Elijah Muhammad and known popularly as the Black Muslims. Malcolm quickly become a convert, took the Muslim “X” in place of the “slave name” Little shed his past and entered upon his own reeducation, beginning by copying words out of a dictionary from A to Z. He was ordained a minister after his release, and over the next twelve years he became the best known and most effective evangelist of the Nation of Islam, heading its Harlem mosque, organizing dozens more temples from Connecticut to California, building its following from 400 to perhaps 10,000 registered members and countless additional sympathizers.”

### **Are the following paragraphs correctly done or has some plagiarism taken place?**

Malcolm was introduced by his younger brother to the teachings of the Nation of Islam while he was in prison; he became a convert, exchanged the Muslim “X” for the “slave name” Little and eventually became an ordained minister.

*Loose paraphrasing of the author’s words with no credit given for the ideas is plagiarism.*

As the Nation of Islam’s most famous evangelist, Malcolm built its membership from 400 to as many as 10,000.

*The statistics given are not common knowledge and are not credited. Plagiarism!*

Malcolm quickly became a convert, took the Muslim “X” in place of the “slave name” Little, shed his past and entered upon his own reeducation, beginning by copying words out of a dictionary from A to Z.<sup>1</sup>

*Still plagiarized! While the writer used a footnote to indicate the source, she does not use quotation marks to indicate that the sentence was lifted in its entirety. Chances are that an abrupt change in writing style will be noticeable to a critical reader.*

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<sup>4</sup> Kim A. McDonald, “Noted Harvard Psychiatrist Resigns Post after Faculty Group Finds He Plagiarized.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* December 7, 1988:A1.

<sup>5</sup> Jeanne McDowell, “He’s Got Their Number, Almost: A Writer Scores Against a Studio But Where’s the Money?” *Time* January 22, 1990:50.

The “best known and most effective evangelist of the Nation of Islam” Malcolm had been introduced to the Lost-Found Nation of Islam, known as the Black Muslims, by his younger brother while he was in prison; later ordained as a minister, he was instrumental in the growth of the Nation of Islam over the next 12 years.<sup>2</sup>

*The direct quote is in quotation marks but the footnote numbers does not appear until the end of the sentence, indicating that both those specific words and other facts are Goldman's.*

### **Additional Bibliography & Footnote Aids are Available at the University Graduate Library:**

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Fifth edition. 2001. 349pp. Index. Ask at the Reference Desk BF76.7 .P83 2001.

A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. Kate L. Turabian, Fifth Edition. 1987. 300 pp. Index. Revised and expanded by B.B. Honigsblum. Ask at the Reference Desk. Ref LB 2369 .T93 1987; also on reserve.

If you are still unsure about what constitutes plagiarism, please consult this website from the University of Indiana. Here, the user is asked to evaluate if each in a series of examples constitutes plagiarism.

<http://www.education.indiana.edu/%7Efrick/plagiarism/item1.html>

5/2000, Shapiro Undergraduate Library

### **J.2. Harassment and Discrimination**

It is the University of Michigan policy to maintain an academic and work environment free of sexual harassment for students, faculty, and staff. Sexual harassment is contrary to the standards of the University community. It diminishes individual dignity and impedes equal employment and educational opportunities and equal access to freedom of academic inquiry. Sexual harassment by a student, staff member, or faculty member is a barrier to fulfilling the University's scholarly, research, educational, and service missions. It will not be tolerated at the University of Michigan. (Also see Section IV.J.3. of this Guide.)

The University of Michigan strives to create a community of and for learners. To do so requires an environment of trust and openness. Discrimination is unacceptable. Such behavior threatens to destroy the environment of tolerance and mutual respect that must prevail if the University is to fulfill its purpose. At the University of Michigan and the School of Social Work it is "unacceptable to discriminate, harass, or abuse any person because of his or her race, religion, ethnic group, creed, sex, age, ancestry, marital status,

sexual orientation, or physical handicap." The statements opposite the Table of Contents in this Guide, on Affirmative Action, Sexual Orientation, and Students with Disabilities summarize the University's commitments in these areas and the University offices that handle complaints of discrimination University policies and complaint procedures related to sexual harassment and other forms of discriminatory harassment are found in the University's *Policies Affecting Students*, see: [www.umich.edu/~oscr](http://www.umich.edu/~oscr) Students are encouraged to seek assistance from or report complaints to the University offices listed in the policy statements, or to contact the School of Social Work's Affirmative Action Coordinator, Associate Dean Richard Tolman or the School of Social Work's Sexual Harassment Officer, Associate Dean Kristine Siefert.

### **J.3. Faculty-Student Relations**

The School subscribes to the policies regarding student-faculty relations found in Title XI of the University's Faculty Handbook. Faculty are expected to be available for consultation with students, to respect the civil and institutional rights of students, to deal equitably and fairly with them in academic matters, to support students in their own development within the University community, and to set a high example in professional conduct both with respect to personal and corporate responsibilities and with respect to modes of dealing with ethical issues. Faculty are also expected to understand and comply with provisions made for participation by students in campus decision-making both University-wide and within the subordinate units. (Social work students may participate in a number of student-faculty committees that make policy recommendations to the School's Governing Faculty. The Social Work Student Union coordinates the participation of students on these committees.)

The School of Social Work's Faculty Handbook also speaks to student-faculty relationships. Faculty are expected to be aware that their positions of authority, their identity as experts and as role models, and the general deference with which students relate to them can give a faculty member great power and influence over students. Thus, relationships with students outside the academic context must be treated with special caution, care, and professional integrity.

Financial transactions between faculty and students are suspect in appearance and are generally discouraged. Any financial transactions between faculty and social work students must therefore be approved by the Dean.

Faculty members shall not accept students in the School of Social Work as social work clients.

The University's policy on sexual harassment is obviously and without question applicable to faculty-student relationships. The relationship between faculty and adult students, however complex it may be, is ultimately and structurally asymmetrical. Like any professional relationship, it rests upon a special form of trust and reciprocal respect. Sexual relationships between faculty members and students risk diminishing or even voiding this trust and respect to the detriment of all. Moreover, the asymmetry of this relationship means that any sexual relationship between a faculty member and a student is potentially exploitive and should be avoided.

## **K. Study Time and Funds for Books Needed as a Student**

Courses at the School of Social Work, like other graduate courses at the University of Michigan, require considerable study time in individual preparation outside of class. This time includes reading, note-taking, studying for examinations, writing papers, and completing other assignments. It is assumed that on average each hour of class time will be accompanied by two or three hours of time spent outside of class. Thus for students taking 15 credits of classroom courses a minimum of 45–60 hours of time must be available on average each week for class time and out-of-class preparation. Students taking 12 credits of classroom courses and 4 credits of field instruction should have available a minimum of 36–48 hours for class time and preparation plus 16 hours for their field instruction. Full-time students with major family and/or employment responsibilities will need to budget their time very carefully to meet their course responsibilities. Alternatively, they may need to utilize the Extended Degree or Fifth Term Curriculum Options. (See Section V. A.7.e.).

Although most required reading materials are available on reserve at the Social Work Library, many students find it a more efficient use of their time to purchase textbooks and coursepacks for assigned reading. The price of such materials has escalated dramatically in recent years and it is common for book and related costs to be \$75 or more per course. Thus, full-time students should plan on costs of at least \$400–\$450 per term for such purchases.

## **L. Insurance Coverage for Students**

### **L.1. Automobile Insurance**

Guiding Principles: Students enrolled at the School who have automobiles should be aware of the following insurance matters: 1) Michigan is a no-fault insurance state; 2) Car insurance policies issued out of state may assume the principal use of the auto will be in the home state; 3) Some field placement agencies require that the student use their own car for agency business with reimbursement for mileage; 4) If you should be required to use your own car for agency business, it may be advisable to increase your insurance coverage; 5) You should be sure that your insurance coverage includes use of the car on agency business; 6) *You should check with your insurance carrier relative to these and other contingencies before using your automobile to carry out agency business.*

Discussion: Students who are enrolled in field work are sometimes asked to use their cars for agency business (e.g., transporting clients, making home visits, attending case conferences, court hearings or organizational meetings.) Before responding to such requests, the student should ask whether or not the agency has car insurance to cover these activities. If the answer is no, the student should immediately check with their insurance agent to determine whether their current insurance policy covers such endeavors. *In no case should the students undertake agency business in their personal vehicles without adequate insurance coverage.* If the carrier recommends that you have additional insurance, the agency should reimburse the student for the amount of the additional coverage.

Michigan requires that all drivers carry liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$20,000 per person, \$40,000 per accident. If you are transporting clients, you will want to carry substantially more than the minimum requirement. We recommend that you check with your insurance carrier as to the appropriate amount you should carry given your use of the car on agency business.

Students should also be aware that under the Michigan no-fault automobile insurance law, collision coverage takes on added meaning. If you do not have collision insurance (insurance coverage on damages to your own car) you can only recover a maximum of \$400 for property loss to your car, *even if you were not at fault in the accident*. In other words, if another driver negligently causes damages to your car, perhaps to the extent that it is total loss, you are nevertheless limited to a recovery of \$400 in any subsequent law suit, unless you have collision insurance. This limitation holds whether you are on personal or agency business.

With regard to the use of your auto on agency business, some carriers do not require you to carry a business-use insurance rider if you only use the car for such purposes an average of one day a week. Other carriers might not be so generous. Before undertaking agency business with your car, you should check with your insurance agency on this matter.

Students coming into the state with automobiles registered out of state should pay particular attention to the Michigan no-fault auto insurance laws. Simply stated, no-fault means that, with some exceptions, each person who is involved in an auto accident is responsible for his or her own property losses. **Before coming to the University you should find out several things relative to your insurance coverage:** 1) The insurance rates in Michigan may be more reasonable than those of your home state, so if your auto insurance is purchased through a national carrier, you might be able to save on insurance premiums; 2) If you have student status, your home insurance policy will usually cover your activities even though you will be in Michigan for one or two years; however, you should be sure that your insurance carrier follows this policy; 3) *You should check with your insurance agent to find out what impact Michigan's no-fault auto insurance law has on your current insurance policy. The School of Social Work cannot be responsible for your adequate insurance coverage.*

## **L.2. Malpractice and Liability Insurance**

Malpractice insurance protects and covers the student in cases of professional negligence or misconduct which results in mental or physical injury to a client. It is focused on the student's *professional* interactions with client systems.

Regular liability insurance covers one for *personal* negligence or misconduct which results in injury to another. Examples are auto insurance, homeowners insurance, or business (agency) insurance which covers the individual or agency for injuries occurring as a result of the failure to meet reasonable standards of care and conduct.

Social work interns are covered for malpractice under the University of Michigan's policy, but there is no University general liability insurance policy that covers students

placed at agencies to fulfill the requirements of field instruction. If the agency does not provide general liability insurance for student interns, it is the student's responsibility to obtain this insurance, if so desired. The latter includes automobile liability insurance coverage for the use of the student's vehicle to transport clients (see preceding Section L.1 on Automobile Insurance).

### **M. Guidelines on Personal Safety**

Due to incidents of violence against social workers, the School attempts to make students aware of safety issues and prepared to handle potentially dangerous situations. Training in personal safety is provided to all new students early in the first term of enrollment. Also, agency safety guidelines and information on student health care safety preparation appear in the *Field Instruction Manual*. Because safety issues relate to field work, campus life, and many other settings, general information about risk assessment and reduction is also provided in the *Field Instruction Manual* (see "Guidelines on Personal Safety"). This information can be used to assess environmental risk levels, to determine if a client or another individual could be dangerous, to make decisions about managing risky situations, or to protect oneself or clients.

### **N. Registration as a Social Worker in the State of Michigan**

The State of Michigan has three levels of registration for social workers: Social Work Technician; Social Worker; and Certified Social Worker. Graduate students at the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan are eligible to apply for registration as a Social Worker while they are students provided they meet other state requirements, including a baccalaureate degree and good moral character. Graduates of the School of Social Work who have not become registered as social workers while they were students can also apply for registration as a Social Worker.

In order to become a Certified Social Worker, an individual must possess all the qualifications for the title Social Worker, and in addition possess the MSW degree and have 4,000 hours of post-MSW social work experience completed under the supervision of a Michigan Certified Social Worker or a person who holds the equivalent license, certificate, or registration from a state that regulated social work. If an applicant presents experience obtained in a state that does not regulate social work, the experience shall have been obtained under the supervision of a person who possesses a master's degree in social work.

Registration is important under the laws of the State of Michigan, for those who have not achieved this status may quite simply not hold themselves out to be social workers. In other words, you cannot call yourself a social worker in the workplace environment. Some jobs may require proof of registration.

Applications to register as a social worker at any level can be obtained by contacting:

Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services  
Bureau of Health Services  
Board of Examiners of Social Workers  
P.O. Box 30670  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 335-0918  
(517) 373-2179 (fax)

There is a \$40 application fee. If you apply while you are student here, the State of Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services (CIS) requires proof of your enrollment status. You can obtain this verification by completing a Request Form, available in the Registrar's Office, 1772 School of Social Work. According to the State of Michigan Department of CIS, which is responsible for registration, the application process normally takes at least 90 days. Because there may be a backlog in processing applications by the State, you should also take this into account when applying for registration. MSW students are strongly encouraged to apply for Registration as a Social Worker in Michigan

### **N.1. Related Issues to Your Career as a Social Worker**

We advise students to *keep a copy of their course outlines* each term indefinitely, as occasionally a copy of this may be requested by licensing agencies for proof of course content. Although the School of Social Work provides general course descriptions when necessary, it does not typically have course outlines available.

#### **Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)**

The ASWB is the association of state bodies that regulate social work. Incorporated in 1979 as an organization devoted to consumer protection, ASWB membership includes 49 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Alberta, Canada

ASWB develops and maintains the social work licensing examination used across the country, and is a central resource for information on the legal regulation of social work. Through the association, social work boards can share information and work together. ASWB also works with professional social work organizations like NASW, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the Clinical Social Work Federation, the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work, the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB).

ASWB is also available to help individual social workers and social work students with questions they may have over licensing and the social work examinations. For more information, call ASWB at (800-225-6880) or their website at [www.aswb.org/index.html](http://www.aswb.org/index.html)

**Association of  
Social  
Work  
Boards**

**MICHIGAN**

Board of Examiners of Social Work

611 W. Ottawa Street

P.O. Box 30670

Lansing, MI 48909

(517) 335-0918

[www.cis.state.mi.us/bhser/lic/home.htm](http://www.cis.state.mi.us/bhser/lic/home.htm)

<b>Title</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Experience</b>
Certified Social Worker	CSW	MSW	2 yrs POST
Social Worker	SW	MSW or BA	2 yrs POST
Social Work Technician	SWT	2 yrs college or 1 yr experience	1 Yr

**Here are exam centers closest to you:**

Sylvan Technology Center #5498  
3280 Packard Road Suite 220  
Ann Arbor MI 48108  
734-973-9328

Sylvan Technology Center #4292  
3250 West Big Beaver Road Suite 101  
Troy MI 48084  
248-643-7323

Sylvan Technology Center #4293  
3910 Burton Street, SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49546  
616-957-0368

Sylvan Technology Center #5248  
45200 Sterritt Suite 103  
Utica MI 48317  
810-739-0270

Sylvan Technology Center #4325  
2500 Kerry Street Suite 100  
Lansing MI 48912  
517-372-7413

Sylvan Technology Center #4324  
37727 Professional Center Drive Suite 130  
Livonia MI 48154  
734-462-2750

Sylvan Technology Center #5391  
Hillside Center, Suite 214 640 Romance Road  
Portage MI 49002  
616-321-8351

NASW now issues four credentials and publishes the NASW Register of Clinical Social Workers.

- **The Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW).**

The ACSW certifies social workers for independent, self-regulated practice. Eligibility depends on a CSWE-accredited master's level education, at least two years of supervised social work practice in an agency or organization, references, and active NASW membership.

- **The Qualified Clinical Social Worker (QCSW).**

Social workers who hold the QCSW are qualified providers of mental health care services, have an advanced level social work degree, have at least two years of post-graduate clinical social work experience under specific conditions, hold a current state social work license or certification that meets particular criteria, and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, NASW Standards for the Practice of Clinical Social Work, and the NASW Continuing Education Standards.

- **NASW Diplomat in Clinical Social Work (DCSW).**

The NASW Diplomat in Clinical Social Work distinguishes advanced clinical practice expertise and holders may also be identified in the NASW Register of Clinical Social Workers. The DCSW is NASW's highest level professional certification, a benchmark credential that is granted in perpetuity.

- **School Social Work Specialist (SSWS).**

The SSWS is available to social work practitioners who work in public or private schools, preschools, special education, and residential school settings. To hold the SSWS, a social worker must have a graduate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited school, be a qualified provider of social services and mental health services in a school setting, and have two years of post-graduate social work employment and supervision in a school setting (one year of a school social work practicum as part of graduate training may be substituted for one year of supervised work experience).

*For more information, contact the NASW Credentialing Office, Office of Quality Assurance, 750 First Street, N.E., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20002. Or call NASW—MI at (800) 292-7871 or (517) 487-1548.*

## **O. Lockers**

The SSWB has over 300 lockers for student use on the lower level of the building. They are located in the same area as the student mailboxes.

The lockers are coin operated. You need to insert a quarter in the inside of the door in order to remove the key. The lockers were designed for students to use on a day-to-day as needed basis. The quarter is returned each time you re-insert the key.

**NO LOCKS ARE TO BE PUT ON THE LOCKERS.  
ANY LOCKS FOUND ON LOCKERS WILL BE REMOVED.**

To keep the number of keys that are lost or misplaced to a minimum, all keys must be returned to lockers at the end of each term. On the first day of classes for the next term, students will again have access to lockers. A reminder Email message will be sent to all students near the end of the term.

The Office of Student Services has reserved several lockers for the use of students with disabilities on a term-by-term basis. If you have a disability and are unable to locate a suitable locker, please stop by the Office of Student Services, 1748 SSWB, to request the use of one of these lockers.

Lost keys should be reported to the SSW Facilities Office: Room 2828 SSWB; Email: [ssw.facilities@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.facilities@umich.edu).

**P. Services for Students with Disabilities**

Warren Clark of the Office of Field Instruction is the School's liaison to the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. The Office of Field Instruction has prepared the following for information about the library and related resources for students with disabilities. He welcomes comments about these or other services available for students with disabilities; feel free to contact him at Email address [clarkw@umich.edu](mailto:clarkw@umich.edu), or (734 647-9433).

**Office of Services for Students with Disabilities**

Students need to register with SSD to obtain services and to access some of the library facilities. As necessary, SSD can place equipment in particular libraries. Following are equipment and services offered through SSD. Additional information can be found on the SSD website [www.umich.edu/~sswd/ssd/](http://www.umich.edu/~sswd/ssd/)

**Services for all students with disabilities.** Advocacy and referral, limited scholarships, newsletters, volunteer notetakers, carbonized note paper, free photocopying of class notes, free course notes service for some classes, assisted early registration for eligible students, and individualized service and accommodation forms to professors.

**Services for students with learning disabilities.** Volunteer readers, volunteer tutors, referral for psychoeducational assessments, selected course book loans for taping, Franklin Spelling Aces, free cassette tapes, APH 4-track recorders.

**Services for students mobility impairments.** Access map of campus, accessible campus bus service, advocacy for removal of physical barriers, library retrieval service.

**Services for blind or visually impaired students.** Orientation to campus facilities, library retrieval service, volunteer readers, selected course book loans for taping, tactile map of campus, accessible campus bus service, free enlargement of some course materials, talking calculators, Perkins Braille, free cassette tapes, conversion of printed materials to Etext, APH 4-track recorders.

**Services for deaf and hard of hearing students.** Sign language and oral interpreters, notetakers, short-term loan of FM amplification system, captioning of videos, Computer Assisted Real-Time Captioning, telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD/TTY).

**Services for students with other disabilities.** Appropriate services are provided for students with chronic health conditions or psychological disabilities.

**Adaptive Technology Computing Site.** IBM and Macintosh computers, Kurzweil voice input, Oscar scanner and Arkenstone reader, speech synthesizer and software, large screen monitors, closed circuit television, refreshable Braille display, Braille printer.

**Library reading rooms.** Closed circuit televisions, APH 4-track recorders, Braille dictionary, Braille and print typewriters, Perkins Braille.

### **Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library**

**Equipment and Services Available.** Reading rooms are in Room 400, 500, and 600 and contain four-track cassette recorders. Room 400 also contains a closed circuit television, Braille typewriter, and a Webster's dictionary in Braille.

**Financial Aid Directory.** A copy of the recent edition of "Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families," published by Reference Service Press, is located in the Reference Room of the UM Graduate Library. The directory lists hundreds of scholarships, fellowships, loans, and other educational funding sources for people with all kinds of disabilities. A reference librarian (734-764-3166) can answer questions about this handbook.

### **Shapiro Undergraduate Library**

**Equipment and Services Available.** The Adaptive Technology Computing Site is in the basement of the Undergraduate Library. Run by ITCS, it is a microcomputing facility for persons with disabilities. ITCS staff are usually available Friday afternoons to train people in the use of the computers, to answer questions, and to inform people about the barrier-free computer users group. A scanner is available in the Adaptive Technology Site and is used with a speech output computer (Artic Vision speech synthesizer), so students do not have to use readers all the time. Also in the basement of the Undergraduate Library is a computer to create Braille text, a Braille printer, IBM and MAC computers with large print screens, a closed-circuit TV, and a voice input computer for dictating into word processing programs.

### **UM Library Retrieval Service**

The University Library system's 747-FAST retrieval service is available to students with certain types of disabilities. Eligibility includes students with visual, mobility, or any other conditions which make it difficult (or impossible) to collect library materials. Individuals using the 747-FAST service make requests for books and articles by Email (see section on Computing Funds), by phone, or by mail. The library service delivers students' material to the SSD Office within two working days. Costs are covered by SSD, and MSA grant, and the UM libraries. Interested students should contact SSD at 734-763-3000.