

Referee Statement: New Application for Accredited Clinical Social Worker (ACSW) Status

Explanatory notes for employers/supervisors completing this reference

You have been asked to complete this statement by a social worker (applicant) who is seeking to become accredited by the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) as an AASW Accredited Clinical Social Worker (ACSW).

There are 6 criteria/components to the accreditation process. An applicant must:

1. Hold current membership of the AASW
2.
 - a) Have at least 5 years full-time equivalent (post-qualifying) social work practice including a minimum of 2 years full-time equivalent social work practice experience in clinical social work practice in the last 5 years
 - b) An applicant must be able to articulate how their experience meets the AASW Clinical Capability Statement
3. Have received at least 2 years' full-time equivalent (FTE) post-qualifying supervision in clinical social work practice within the last 5 years
4. Have met the Continuing Professional Development requirements
5. Demonstrate ability and knowledge of Clinical Social Work practice
6. Verification of applicant's skills and competencies in practice – Referee statement and position description; arrange an employer or supervisor to provide a referee statement related to each post-qualifying nominated clinical social work position

For further information please refer to the AASW requirements listed below.

The AASW requires information on the applicant's capabilities to practice according to the AASW [Clinical Social Worker Capability Framework](#).

Please note that you **may** be contacted directly by the assessing officer if further clarification is needed.

In preparing your reference you may find it helpful to refer to the definitions and documents that follow these explanatory notes

Documents

[Criteria for AASW Accredited Clinical Social Worker](#)

[AASW Clinical Social Worker Capability Framework](#)

AASW [Supervision Standards](#) 2014

Further information or to submit

Please return this reference to the applicant to include in their online application,

OR, if you prefer, forward directly to:

credentialing@asw.asn.au

or

AASW Credentialing Team
Australian Association of Social Workers
PO Box 2008
ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL VIC 3050

Section 1: Referee Statement

This is to be completed by an employer/supervisor - past or present.

Please note: you must 'Save As' before completing the document.

Applicant's name:

Your personal details:

Preferred title: Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other

Full name:

Position/job title:

Organisation:

Address for correspondence:

Town/Suburb:

State:

Postcode:

Work phone:

Email:

(include area codes)

Relationship with applicant:

Please describe your relationship with the applicant and the nature of your role as employer/supervisor. Please include relevant dates and details of the practice setting in which you work (or worked) with the applicant. If you require more space, please feel free to attach a separate typed and signed page.

Please provide comments regarding the applicant's employment equivalence within the last 5 years (for example 'the applicant currently is employed 0.8 FTE however, from Jan 2012 - Oct 2013 was employed full time').

Qualifications:

Please state your qualifications and experience in the clinical social work field including your supervision experience.

Section 2: Referee Statement

Please provide a referee statement related to the applicant. Please include your assessment of the applicant's capability, knowledge and skills to provide clinical social work services. A suggestion is to try and keep your entry to 500 words. If you require more space, please feel free to attach a separate signed page.

Section 3: AASW Accredited Clinical Social Worker - Referee Statement

The *Capability Framework for AASW Accredited Clinical Social Workers* is used by applicants applying for accreditation to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and experience in clinical social work practice settings. We structured this referee statement using this Framework as a foundation.

Please tick the appropriate box against each of the standards listed to indicate that in your view, the applicant meets or does not meet this standard. There is additional space for comments if required.

Capability 1: Consistently demonstrates advanced effective engagement skills with those accessing services		Competent	Requires development	Have not observed / not relevant
Ability 1a	Provides advanced responses within appropriate ethical, theoretical and practice-based frameworks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 1b	Demonstrates advanced clinical engagement skills with those from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 1c	Demonstrates advanced clinical engagement skills with those from a range of cultures, classes, ages, ethnicities, religions, peoples of diverse bodies, genders, sexualities and abilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 1d	Demonstrates an advanced ability to establish the foundations of a collaborative working relationship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments:

Capability 2: Assessment and analysis of need		Competent	Requires development	Have not observed / not relevant
Ability 2a	Demonstrates advanced clinical practice skills in the identification and assessment of clinical needs of the person/s and their environment. This includes intrapersonal, inter personal and social concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 2b	Applies advanced critical thinking, systemic analysis and problem-solving skills in all assessment, case formulation and service provision planning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments:

Capability 3: Risk		Competent	Requires development	Have not observed / not relevant
Ability 3a	Demonstrates an advanced ability to conduct assessments and reviews of the components of clinical risk and ensures these inform treatment planning and review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments:

Capability 4: Provides effective services		Competent	Requires development	Have not observed / not relevant
Ability 4a	Demonstrates the ability to work collaboratively with clients on their treatment goals offering a range of evidence-based interventions to improve quality of life and well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4b	Draws on knowledge of person-in-environment, systems theory and other core theories to be familiar with social, psychological, spiritual, cultural and health factors influential in peoples' health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4c	Demonstrates specialist practice, theoretical and research knowledge around clinical intervention that informs all service provision for optimal health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4d	Develops broad human sector service knowledge and refers clients appropriately when client need is beyond the clinical social worker's knowledge and skill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4e	Develops systems to support evidence-based practice and consider outcome measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4f	Works within established protocols and procedures of their sector / system / organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4g	Undertakes consultation, support, advocacy, supervision and debriefing with other agencies and services with the client in mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ability 4h	Evaluates the effectiveness of services with clients and adjusts service provision accordingly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4i	Terminates or renegotiates service provision when the relationships no longer serves the interests of the client or a conflict of interest becomes evident	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4j	records and manages information in accordance with ethical principles and relevant legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4k	Actively seeks client feedback, both informally and formally, to inform service provision and enhance own professional development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 4l	Actively engages in clinical supervision around cases to ensure clinical accountability and transparency in practice, as well as opportunity to identify areas for clinical growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments:

Capability 5: Advocates for legislative, policy and practice reform within the context of their role and clinical area		Competent	Requires development	Have not observed / not relevant
Ability 5a	Maintains current knowledge of policy and legislation and how they impact on the clients, their community and environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 5b	Appropriately works with others to achieve legislative and policy reform as informed by client need and clinical experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability 5c	Makes recommendations to government on policy and practice reforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further comments:

	Yes	No
In your professional opinion is the applicant capable of practicing, either directly or indirectly, in accordance with the AASW Clinical Social Worker Capability Framework?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 4: Declaration

I declare that:

1. The information I have supplied on this form and any attachments is complete, correct and up to date.
2. I have read and understood the information supplied to me in the explanatory notes accompanying this application.

Signature: Date:

How to submit:

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