

Appendix C:

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BUREAU OF EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION

SPECIAL SERVICES ENDORSEMENT – SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

ALL APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT HOLD A VALID CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

PRAXIS I PRE-PROFESSIONAL SKILLS TESTS (PPST): PAPER-BASED
OR
PRAXIS I PRE-PROFESSIONAL SKILLS TESTS (PPST): COMPUTERIZED
OR
WAIVER

AND

HOLD A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK FROM A SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK ACCREDITED BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION.

AND

A course of study in special education comprised of not fewer than 36 clock hours, which shall include study in understanding the growth and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented children and children who may require special education, and methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with special-needs children in the regular classroom. For a list of pre-approved courses, see: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&xq=321380>

Proposed Certification Regulations for 2014

School Social Worker

Sec. 10-145d-932. When required

This endorsement is required for anyone serving in the employ of a board of education as a school social worker in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

Sec. 10-145d-933. Initial educator certificate requirements

To receive an initial educator certificate to serve as a school social worker, the applicant shall meet the following requirements, in addition to meeting the assessment requirements, as appropriate:

- (a) Holds a bachelor's degree from an approved institution;
- (b) Holds a master's degree in social work from a school of social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education;

(c) 300 direct practice hours of school-based social work or 10 months of full-time supervised experience as a school social worker in the employ of a public school in another state, approved nonpublic school in Connecticut or nonpublic school approved by the appropriate governing body in another state;

(d) A graduate level course focused on social work practice in educational settings with study in school culture and collaboration, student assessment, student academic or behavioral interventions, and crisis interventions and mental health that impact learning;

(e) Has completed coursework that fulfill the following areas:

(1) Educational psychology and characteristics of learners, which shall include a combination of the following preparation and successful application of child and adolescent development research into educational practice:

(A) The growth and development of typical and atypical students pre-kindergarten through grade 12 including the characteristics and functioning of students with disabilities, English language learners, and gifted and talented learners;

(B) The impact of cultural, linguistic and environmental issues on the learning needs of students;

(C) Typical and atypical cognitive, emotional, language and behavioral development of school aged children; and

(D) The impact of nutrition, first aid, disease, community health, mental health, youth suicide, child abuse, and alcohol and drug abuse on children.

(2) Federal and state education laws including, but not limited to, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Americans with Disabilities Act section 504, professional ethics and code of professional responsibility for educators, Family

Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and statutory requirements for mandated reporting, suspensions/expulsions, and school/district accountability; and

(3) Strategies for communicating and collaborating with families about students' progress including communicating assessment results.

Sec. 10-145d-934. Provisional educator certificate requirements

To receive a provisional educator certificate for school social worker, an applicant shall present evidence of meeting the preparation and eligibility requirements for an initial educator certificate, in addition to completing the following requirements:

(a) 10 months of successful service under the initial educator certificate or interim educator certificate; or

(b) Has completed at least 30 school months of successful service within 10 years prior to application for the provisional educator certificate in the subject area or field appropriate to the subject area or

field for which the provisional educator certificate is sought in the public school system in another state, or an approved nonpublic school.

Sec. 10-145d-935. Professional educator certificate requirements

To receive a professional educator certificate for school social worker, an applicant shall present evidence of the following:

- (a) 30 school months of successful service under the provisional educator certificate or interim provisional educator certificate in the employ of a board of education; and
- (b) A minimum of 20 hours of training in design, assessment and implementation of behavioral support and analysis services for students with behavioral disabilities or autism spectrum disorders.