

**Nine Core Competencies and Associated Indicators
for MSW Foundation Curriculum**

**Compliant with 2015 Council on Social Work Education
Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards**

Core Competency 1: Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior

1.1 Practice personal reflection and self-correction to assure continual professional development

1.2 Maintain professional roles and boundaries

1.3 Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior and appearance

1.4 Use supervision and consultation

1.5 Recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice

1.6 Make ethical decisions by applying standards of the NASW Code and, as application of the IFSW/IASSW and apply strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions

1.7 Demonstrate effective oral and written communication with professionals and client systems

1.8 Develop and maintain appropriate documentation within a practice context

Core Competency 2: Engage diversity and difference in practice

2.1 Assess how a culture's structures oppose, marginalize, alienate, and/or contributes to power disparities

2.2 Gain sufficient self-awareness to acknowledge the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups

2.3 Recognize and communicate one's understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences

Core Competency 3: Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice

3.1 Identify and articulate forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination

3.2 Engage in practices that advance social and economic justice

3.3 Gain an understanding of environmental justice

Core Competency 4: Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice

4.1 Use practice experiences to inform scientific inquiry

4.2 Use research evidence to inform practice

4.3 Critique and apply theory-based knowledge in practice

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Core Competency 5: Engage in policy practice

5.1 Analyze and advocate for policies that advance social well-being

5.2 Understand how policy drives practice

5.3 Apply knowledge and person-in-environment perspectives to inform policy practice

Core Competency 6: Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

6.1 Critique and apply knowledge of person-in-environment perspectives for collaborative work with/across client systems

6.2 Develop relationships with clients and professionals based on empathy, respect, acceptance, and concern

Core Competency 7: Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

7.1 Collect, organize, interpret, and document client data

7.2 Assess client strengths and limitations

7.3 Interview and/or engage with client systems by using non-directive questions and active listening techniques

Core Competency 8: Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

8.1 Select appropriate intervention strategies

8.2 Understand prevention interventions that enhance client capacities

8.3 Support client self-determination by developing mutually agreed-upon intervention goals and objectives

8.4 Negotiate, mediate, and advocate for clients

8.5 Facilitate transitions and endings

8.6 Use conceptual frameworks to guide the process of assessment and intervention

Core Competency 9: Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

9.1 Critically analyze, monitor, evaluate, and adjust intervention strategies accordingly

9.2 Use conceptual frameworks to guide the process of research and practice evaluation

9.3 Evaluate and respond to contexts that shape practice