

Social Workers Registration Board

Reference on Social Work

Foreword

The Social Workers Registration Board (the Board) is a statutory body established in Hong Kong under the Social Workers Registration Ordinance (the Ordinance), Cap 505. The main functions of the Board include but are not limited to dealing with the registration and discipline-related matters of registered social workers (RSWs).

The Ordinance does not provide an interpretation of the term “social work”. As the definitions of social work vary in different schools and theories, the Board has difficulty in adopting a universal definition applicable to all contexts. After referring to the Ordinance and citing the relevant publications of some international bodies of social workers, the Board compiles and set out below a collection of reference to social work.

“Social Work” in the Context of the Ordinance

Meaning of “Social Work Post”

Section 2

“Social work post” means a post of employment in social work where the holder of the post, in order to discharge the duties of the post, requires knowledge and skills that may be obtained by acquiring a recognized degree or diploma in social work.

Qualifications for Registration

Section 17(1)

The Board shall not register a person as a registered social worker (category 1) unless he –

- (a) is the holder of a degree or diploma in social work recognized by the Board for the purposes of this subsection; or
- (b) satisfies the Board that he has –
 - (i) occupied a social work post not later than 31 March 1982; and
 - (ii) subsequent to that date, occupied a social work post or posts for not less than 10 years, whether or not continuously.

Section 17(2)

The Board shall not register a person as a registered social worker (category 2) unless he satisfies the Board that –

- (a) he currently occupies a social work post or has been accepted for such a post; and
- (b) if he is so registered, he proposes to obtain a recognized degree or diploma in social work within a period which is reasonable in all the circumstances.

Use of Title of “Social Worker” or Related Descriptions

Section 34(1)

Subject to subsections (3) and (4), a person whose name does not appear on the Register shall not be entitled to use-

- (a) the description "registered social worker" or "註冊社會工作者";
- (b) the initials "R.S.W."; or
- (c) the description "social work" or "社會工作" or "social worker" or "社會工作者" or "社工",

whether in combination with any other description or any initials or otherwise, to describe his profession as being the social work profession or his social work professional qualifications.

Definition and Description of “Social Work”

The new definition of “Social Work” was approved by the IFSW General Meeting and the IASSW General Assembly in July 2014. The new definition can be found at the website of IFSW: <http://ifsw.org/get-involved/global-definition-of-social-work/>

23 August 2016

社會工作者註冊局 有關「社會工作」的參考資料

前言

社會工作者註冊局（註冊局）乃根據香港法例第 505 章《社會工作者註冊條例》（《條例》）而在香港成立的法定機構。註冊局的主要職能包括但不限於處理有關註冊社會工作者（註冊社工）的註冊及紀律事宜。

《條例》沒有為「社會工作」一詞提供釋義。由於「社會工作」的定義會因不同學派及理論而有所差異，因此，若要註冊局為此採納一套通用於所有情況的定義，實在困難。註冊局於是參考《條例》及引用一些國際社會工作者組織的相關文獻，並彙編成一套有關「社會工作」的參考資料，詳列於下文。

《條例》內含有關「社會工作」的條文

「社會工作」職位的釋義

第 2 條

社會工作職位”指從事社會工作的受僱職位，而擔任該職位的人為了執行該職位 ---的職責，需要具備可藉取得認可社會工作學位或文憑而獲得的知識及技巧。

註冊資格

第 17(1)條

註冊局不得將任何人註冊為註冊社會工作者(第 1 類)，除非該人 –

- (a) 持有獲註冊局為施行本款而認可的社會工作學位或文憑；或
- (b) 令註冊局信納他 –
 - (i) 在 1982 年 3 月 31 日或該日之前已擔任任何社會工作職位；及
 - (ii) 在該日期之後已擔任一個或多於一個的社會工作職位至少 10 年，不論是否連續地擔任該職位或該等職位。

第 17(2)條

註冊局不得將任何人註冊為註冊社會工作者(第 2 類)，除非該人令註冊局信納 –

- (a) 他現正擔任任何社會工作職位或他已獲接納擔任該職位；及
- (b) 如他是如此註冊的，則他擬在於所有情況下屬合理的期間內獲取認可社會工作學位或文憑。

使用「社會工作者」名銜或其相關稱謂

第 34(1)條

除第(3)及(4)款另有規定外，任何不是名列註冊紀錄冊的人無權使用以下名銜 –

- (a) “註冊社會工作者”或 “registered social worker” 的稱謂；
- (b) “R.S.W.” 的英文縮寫；或
- (c) “社會工作”或 “social work” 或“社會工作者”或“社工”或 “social worker” 的稱謂，

不論是否連同任何其他稱謂或任何英文縮寫使用或以其他方式使用，以描述其專業為社會工作專業或描述其社會工作專業資格。

「社會工作」的定義及描述

社會工作的國際定義

國際社會工作者聯會和國際社會工作教育聯盟於 2014 年 7 月在其周年大會通過社會工作的國際定義。有關資料，請瀏覽國際社會工作者聯會網頁：

<http://ifsw.org/get-involved/global-definition-of-social-work/>

二零一六年八月二十三日