

BASW | MSW Foundation Year

Competency-Based Learning Guide

COMPETENCY

1

Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

- Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics within the profession as appropriate to the context.
- Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations.
- Demonstrate professional behavior, appearance, and oral, written, and electronic communication.
- Use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes.
- Use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior.

COMPETENCY

2

Advance Access and Opportunities for All People

- Advocate for human rights at the individual, family, group, organizational, and community system levels.
- Engage in practices that advance human rights.

COMPETENCY

3

Engage in a Broad Representation of Varied Perspectives

- Demonstrate varied perspectives in social work practice at the individual, family, group, organizational, community, research, and policy levels.
- Demonstrate professional humility by applying reflection, self-awareness, and self-regulation, while acknowledging clients and constituencies as experts of their own lived experiences.

COMPETENCY

4

Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice

- Identify strategies that influence ethical quantitative and qualitative research methods to advance the purposes of social work.
- Apply research findings to inform and improve practice, policy, and programs.

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COMPETENCY

5

Engage in Policy Practice

- Use a multidimensional lens to assess how policies affect the delivery of and access to social services.
- Apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policy.

COMPETENCY

6

Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

- Apply knowledge of human behavior and person-in-environment, as well as interprofessional conceptual frameworks, to engage with clients and constituencies.
- Use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to engage in responsive practice with clients and constituencies.

COMPETENCY

7

Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

- Apply theories of human behavior and person-in-environment, as well as other responsive and interprofessional conceptual frameworks, when assessing clients and constituencies.
- Demonstrate respect for client self-determination during the assessment process by collaborating with clients and constituencies in developing a mutually agreed-upon plan.

COMPETENCY

8

Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

- Engage with clients and constituencies to critically choose and implement responsive, evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals.
- Incorporate responsive methods to negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of clients and constituencies.

COMPETENCY

9

Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

- Select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes.
- Critically analyze outcomes and apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.