

Memo to: N.C. Governmental Operations
[Electronic submission: govops@ncleg.net]

From: Micki Lilly, Executive Director
N.C. Social Work Certification and Licensure Board

Date: January 17, 2012

Please accept this Memorandum and attachments as the N.C. Social Work Certification and Licensure Board's (NCSWCLB) request pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 150B-3.1 for consultation regarding a fee proposal by the NCSWCLB.

Pursuant to the Board's authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. 90B-6.2, the Board proposes to amend Rules that would provide for an increase to select services as indicated below. The Board has not increased fees for services since October 1999.

1. Increase the current application fee of \$100 by \$15 to a cost of \$115.
2. Increase the fee for biennial renewal of \$60 for the Certified Social Worker credential by \$10 to a cost of \$70 every two years.
3. Increase the fee for biennial renewal of \$75 for the Certified Master Social Worker Credential by \$15 to a cost of \$90 every two years.
4. Increase the fee for biennial renewal of \$125 for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker by \$25 to a cost of \$150 every two years.
5. Increase the fee for biennial renewal of \$125 for the Certified Social Work Manager by \$25 to a cost of \$150 every two years.
6. Increase the fee for biennial renewal of \$125 for the provisionally Licensed Clinical Social Worker by \$15 to a cost of \$140 every two years.
7. Increase the reinstatement fee of \$100 by \$25 to a cost of \$125 for applicants requesting to reinstate a certificate or license that has been suspended for failure to renew.

Copies of the rules with the proposed amendments are attached. A fee increase proposal is requested for application under 21 NCAC 63 .0208 which is also reflected in 21 NCAC 63 .0210, for renewal of certification and licensure under 21 NCAC 63 .0403, and for reinstatement of an expired certificate or license under 21 NCAC 63 .0404.

The proposed increase comes in response to a yearlong analysis of the Board's expenses, revenues, and staffing needs as it relates to ensuring quality operations and fiscal solvency for the coming years.

It is the Board's experience that most applicants and licensees do not rely on their employer to pay for the cost associated with their credential so we do not believe the increase will create or pose a fiscal impact on local or state government. The average per year volume of applications received over the period since our last increase is approximately 885 and the average number of renewals received annually is 2282. The

revenue received from these increases if approved would not rise to the level of a substantial economic impact; nor would the rules implementing these changes have “substantial economic impact” as defined by N.C. Gen. Stat. 150B-21.4

The proposed amendments have been submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings/Rules Division for publication in the Register on this date.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Board office at 1-800-550-7009, extension 223.

Respectfully,

Micki Lilly, MSHE
Executive Director
NC Social Work Certification and Licensure Board

Cc: Jack Nichols, General Counsel to the Board