



# **SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

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## **STATEMENT ON THE 50TH MEETING OF PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR SOCIAL WORK**

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21 June 2021

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The South African Council for Social Service Professions' Professional Board for Social Work was held on 24 May 2021. The meeting focused on the core business of the Professional Board and progress made since its 49<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 March 2021.

The Professional Board noted the progress made thus far by the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) on the reviewed Policy Guidelines for Course of Conduct, Code of Ethics and the Rules Relating to Acts or Omissions for Social Workers. The document will be finalised and submitted for approval by Council.

During the previous meeting in March, the PBSW adopted the principle of introducing peer review and mandated the Professional Conduct Committee of this Professional Board (PCC) to develop the guidelines. PCC is currently developing these guidelines with the assistance of a subject matter expert.

As COVID-19 is still with us and the work of the Professional Board has to continue, the Professional Board will pilot the quality assurance virtual visits with two institutions of higher education. Institution will be required to submit digital portfolios.

The PBSW noted statistics shared by the manager for the Registrations Division and commended the Division on the progress made with the registration of social auxiliary workers (SAW), social workers (SW), student social auxiliary workers (SSAW) and student social workers (SSW).

<b>Category</b>	<b>Registered as at 29 March 2021</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Currently registered</b>
<b>Social auxiliary workers</b>	12366	31	12397
<b>Social workers</b>	36992	146	37138
<b>Student social auxiliary workers</b>	11622	121	11743
<b>Student social workers</b>	14662	378	15040
<b>Total registered</b>	<b>75642</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>76318</b>

On adoption specialization, 310 applications were received, 231 were registered, and 79 are still to submit supporting documents

The next meeting of the PBSW is scheduled for July 2021.

*Issued by:* SACSSP Communications

### **ENQUIRIES:**

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## **ABOUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP/ Council) is a statutory body established in terms of section 2 of the Social Service Professions Act No. 110 of 1978 (the Act). Council has two professional boards under its auspices: the Professional Board for Social Work and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work. Council, in conjunction with its two professional boards, guides and regulates the professions of social work and child youth care work in aspects pertaining to registration; education and training; professional conduct and ethical behaviour; ensuring continuing professional development; and fostering compliance with professional standards. It protects the integrity of the social service professions as well as the interest of the public at large. In order to safeguard the public and indirectly the professions, registration with Council in terms of the Act is a prerequisite before practising social work and child and youth care work. Registration is mandatory for social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers, student social auxiliary workers, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student child and youth care workers, and student auxiliary child and youth care workers.